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HUGE FUNDING WINDFALL SET TO TRANSFORM MINSTER SITE

£50 million 'will help academy change lives'

By MATHEW BEECH

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STUDENTS and staff at the Isle of Sheppey Academy are celebrating after securing more than £50 million to help fund two state-of-the-art buildings.

The academy's sponsors, Dulwich College and the Diocese of Canterbury, along with Kent County Council, have secured government approval for £54million which will see a pair of modern buildings developed on the east and west of the island.

It will mean facilities at the academy, which specialises in business, enterprise and sport, will be among the best in the world.

They will include a media suite, drama and dance facilities, performance hall, sports hall and outdoor sporting facilities, as well as a vocational centre.

Construction work is due to start on both sites in Sheppey in May.

The academy's chairman of governors, Baroness Floella Benjamin, said: "This is fantastic news for the young people of Sheppey and will help us as we seek to transform education for generations to come."

Chairman of governors for Dulwich College, Lord Turnbull, added: "This has been a long process and represents an excellent outcome following a number of years of hard work by all those involved in this project."

The news comes alongside further funding which was secured by the Spires Academy, near Canterbury.

The institution has been granted £14 million to spend on sports facilities and a new central



NEW FACILITIES: An artist's impression of the planned new buildings at Sheppey Academy



CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Trust needs your views on hospital

VIEWs are being sought in an effort to improve the range of services on offer at the Community Hospital in Faversham.

A public meeting has been set up for July in order to gauge the views of patients and local people.

Kent Community Health NHS Trust regularly collects patients' views through surveys, comments and instant feedback from the Patient Experience Tracker, which gathers response to treatment and level of care.

Now it wants to take it a step further and use the feedback received in a more effective way.

FULL STORY - PAGE 2

Consultation into scheme nears end

A CONSULTATION period into dramatic changes to Faversham town centre concludes this week.

Proposed alterations to Preston Street could see businesses faced with thousands of pounds of additional costs and a potential loss of earnings of more than £100,000.

The Faversham Enterprise Partnership has put forward plans to make the road one-way with parking on both sides, replacing the current two-way lay-out.

The retailers and businesses on the road are opposed to the plans, saying it will stifle trade.

FULL STORY - PAGE 2

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Plans one-way road to ruin, say traders

By MATHEW BEECH

matthewbeech@kosmedia.co.uk

A CONSULTATION period into controversial plans to change traffic flow in the centre of Faversham concludes this week.

The window for businesses and the public to comment on the plans – which would see Preston Street turned into a one-way road with parking bays available on both sides – closes on Friday.

The scheme has been strongly criticised by businesses who say it could drive them out of town or to the wall.

Some say they face a loss in potential earnings of some £100,000 if the plans get the go-ahead.

The proposal has come from the Faversham Enterprise Partnership – a partnership working with Faversham Town Council, Kent County Council, Swale Borough Council, Seeda, local businesses and community organisations working "for the benefit of Faversham and the surrounding area".

They say the changes to the road set-up will ease traffic flow around the town.

But retailers and businesses on the two-way section of the street at the train station end are opposed to the plans, saying it will stifle trade.

Paul Chapman, the owner of the South East Coach Works, whose workshop is in Preston Street, said: "It could cost us more than £100,000.

"We would be unable to get a bus into our workshop as the road would be too narrow.

"We would certainly look at relocating, taking 19 staff with us away from the town centre.

"If the changes go ahead, we will have to exit the workshop from the rear and this would add an extra half a mile to our journey. This would add more than £6,500 to our costs.

"This is the equivalent to employing an apprentice and we would have to review our apprentice scheme"

The owner of a wildlife art gallery in Preston Street claims the proposals would threaten not only his busi-



CHANGES: Making Preston Street one way would be 'a recipe for disaster'

ness, but all of those along the road, and is ready to take drastic action.

Paul Cumberland said: "The proposal to the changes in traffic flow in Preston Street is a recipe for disaster to the retail element to the south of Stone Street.

These businesses have survived the downturn, but this plan is likely to kill off some, if not all of them.

"It will reduce footfall even further and it will make us appear cut off from the rest of the town centre.

"I will shut my doors to the public, making viewings by appointment."

Another major retailer in the road who staunchly opposes the plans is Keith Potten, the manager of the Bike Warehouse.

He believes that the lack of loading bays and provision for deliveries will not only affect the businesses in Preston Street, but also in the town centre as well.

Mr Potten said: "Where will shops and retailers get their deliveries? Some shops get more than 10 deliveries per day, and they won't have anywhere to park.

"They will have to stop in the middle of the road as there will be nowhere else to do it.

"There will be a massive build-up of traffic and instead of encouraging

people to come to the town, this will put them off.

"What if some shops are having a delivery and the emergency services need to get past?

"It is a narrow street and we shouldn't have parking on both sides as it will cause congestion.

"It will end up steering more people towards Tesco and cut us off.

"We are a little bit cut off already, and this would make it worse."

A spokesman for Kent Highways said: "These are proposals that have been put forward for public consultation. We want to get people's reactions and views to help shape the future of the scheme.

"It is a starting point and is a way people can get involved."

A statement on the Faversham Joint Public Realm Working Group public consultation document said: "The review identified possible schemes that, if introduced, could make Faversham's streets more pleasant and encourage shoppers.

"Changing the one-way system in Preston Street to improve traffic flows, particularly to the south of the Stone Street junction, create a more pleasant environment for shoppers and maintain delivery and service access was one such scheme."

Hospital needs your feedback to improve

VIEWS are being sought in an effort to improve the range of services on offer at the Community Hospital in Faversham.

A public meeting has been set up for July in order to gauge the views of patients and local people.

Kent Community Health NHS Trust regularly collects patients' views through surveys, comments and instant feedback from the Patient Experience Tracker, which gathers response to treatment and the level of care received.

Now it wants to take it a step further and use the feedback in a more effective way.

A Faversham Cottage Hospital Patient Experience Group has

Money 'will change lives'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Leader of Kent County Council, Paul Carter, said: "I am delighted that Kent has secured £68 million of government funding for these two academies.

"This is a real investment in the future of young people in Canterbury and Sheppey for generations to come.

"For Sheppey in particular, this is a momentous occasion.

"So many people have championed this project, putting their heart and soul into improving secondary school facilities on the island.

"You cannot underestimate the difference this will make to so many lives."

The Spires Academy is due to open in its new buildings in September 2012 and Isle of Sheppey Academy in February 2013.

Overhaul plan's light at end of the tunnel

COUNTY Hall's cabinet has given its backing to a crucial overhaul of rail services which could see every main town in Kent with regular peak period trains to West End and City stations.

The Rail Action Plan, drawn up by transport chiefs at Kent County Council, looks to make changes to the much-criticised network when the new franchise is introduced in 2014. Key requirements in the plan were endorsed by the ruling Tory executive last week, paving the way for a long-awaited shake-up of services.

Train operator Southeastern has come in for heavy criticism for the level of service it offers commuters.

It is hoped the new strategy will influence the company awarded the next franchise deal.

As well as regular peak-period mainline trains to stations such as Charing Cross, Victoria, Blackfriars and Cannon Street, councillors backed plans to reduce waiting times on connecting trains in areas including Dover and Folkestone, as well as slashing journey times on the berated North Kent line.

Other improvements include:

- An hourly service between Maidstone East and Blackfriars to enhance connections to the City.
- Improving high-speed and mainline services through Sittingbourne on the Sheerness branch, with a focus on removing long connection periods.
- Extending the high-speed service from Dover Priory to Ramsgate via Deal and Sandwich.
- Developing a parkway station at Manston as well as enhanced routes between Ashford and Thanet.
- High-speed services from Maidstone West to run all day, including stops at Maidstone Barracks and Snodland.
- The introduction of a new smart-card ticketing service for bus and rail users.

By MARIJKE COX

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The report also looks to stop the replacement of Cannon Street services from Hastings via Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge and Sevenoaks with Thameslink which would limit how far trains could run into Kent.

An all-day hourly service through Gatwick, Tonbridge and Ashford was also approved, although this would not be part of the new franchise, but carried out in partnership by Gatwick Airport and the new rail contract holder.

Cabinet member for environment, highways and waste, Cllr Bryan Sweetland, said KCC needed to ensure the right conditions were in place for economic regeneration and growth in Kent.

"Only from economic growth can we provide for our children's future and create the opportunities for business, education, employment and leisure that are so crucial," he said.

"The rail service is a key driver of these objectives. A modern, efficient, safe, punctual and reliable service that takes people where they need to go at a time of day that meets their needs is central to our objectives."

"Only by ensuring the provision of good rail links to the right London termini – and between stations within Kent – can we enjoy a rail service that meets the needs of today's travellers and is able to respond to the ever-increasing pressures of tomorrow's passengers, too."

"KCC will stand up for residents and commuters to help influence the decision-making process which will result in the award of a new integrated Kent franchise in 2014."

"We must all ensure that, whoever is the provider, Kent will enjoy the very best rail service."

Contract holder Southeastern has been criticised by MPs and campaigners for poor services and ticket price hikes. But last month its franchise was extended by two years, despite calls for it to be scrapped.



MOVING ON: County Hall's Rail Action Plan has set out Kent's requirements – and hopes – for the next franchise holder

North Thanet MP Roger Gale expressed his disappointment at the extension. He said: "The company has to be put on notice and to understand there will be strong opposition to the renewal of its contract."

To see the full Rail Action Plan go to www.kent.gov.uk/railactionplan. • **For more Kent stories, click on www.kentnews.co.uk.**

Foreign arrests 'not a trend'

A LARGE increase in the number of foreigners being arrested in Kent is no cause for concern, say police.

Last year 4,119 migrants were brought into custody compared with just 1,075 in 2006 – a rise of 283 per cent – but the force says this is to be expected given the county's proximity to the rest of Europe.

Former chief constable Michael Fuller had suggested in 2008 that officers were struggling to cope with an "immigrant crimewave", but Kent Police Federation chairman Ian Pointon does not believe that to be the case.

"I have no knowledge of that whatsoever," he said. "Quite often those type of statements need to be carefully put because they can be inflammatory. I don't have the figures, but how many foreign nationals are actually victims of crime in Kent?"

"There are clearly going to be more foreign people arrested in Kent because of where we are. We have people arriving all the time through Dover, the Tunnel and at Ebbsfleet



GATEWAY: Kent's location leads to more foreign national arrests

and Ashford International stations."

Numbers released under the Freedom of Information Act show that last year officers from 19 forces arrested 91,234 non-British nationals – an increase of 76 per cent from 2008. The rise coincides with a sharp increase in the number of migrants in the UK since European Union expansion in 2004.

"It's not a great surprise that the number of people arrested in Kent includes a higher proportion of non-UK nationals," said Assistant Chief Constable Gary Beauchridge.

"Kent is in a unique position as a gateway, with about 30 million people visiting for leisure or business, and others claiming asylum – or in some cases arriving illegally – every year."

"The figures provide a general indication but no specific cause for concern about particular trends."

"Kent Police will continue to arrest people suspected of crime and disorder, regardless of nationality."

Home Office figures released in January showed the number of burglaries, robberies, sex and drug offences and thefts among all nationalities had increased in Kent between October, 2009, and September, 2010.

However, overall crime fell by 3.9 per cent to a total of 108,000 offences, including a reduction in knife and gun crime, criminal damage and offences against vehicles.

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Flying school's latest students take to the air



TAWNY owls Falcor and Gimli are being put through their paces at Canterbury's Wildwood wildlife centre. The pair are in training to take part in flying displays at the park.



TAKE OFF: Falcor takes to the skies, while Gimli, left, has a rest

Care firm crisis 'won't put elderly on street'

By STEVE KNIGHT

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ELDERLY residents of Kent's Southern Cross care homes have been assured they will not end up on the streets over the firm's financial problems.

The group announced last month that it had held talks with the Government about its money worries, leading to concerns it could be forced into administration.

Southern Cross runs 10 care homes in the county – five of which specialise in dementia care – prompting fears from those who have loved ones using their services.

But regional director Mark Cash says they have no need to panic.

"I would like to reassure people that residents in our care homes do not face the prospect of being made homeless," he said.

"As a public limited company, Southern Cross Healthcare must keep investors informed of changes to our business outlook if they differ from previous statements."

"We continue to face challenges, because fewer people are being placed in our homes by local authorities, many of whom are seeking to reduce the fee levels they pay."

"We are taking action to ensure our business remains sustainable. We are also urging the Government, landlords and commissioners to work co-operatively in supporting us."

Southern Cross provides care to more than 31,000 people throughout the UK, but says recent budget cuts mean its rent burden is

"unsustainable". It warned that it was in danger of defaulting on its debts, but that it was in discussions about a restructuring.

Kent County Council pays about £2 million a year to fund the care of 85 elderly people living in five of Southern Cross' 10 Kent care homes: Elvy Court in Sittingbourne, Highfield in Canterbury, Kingsfield in Faversham, and Fairfield Manor and Woodlands, both in Broadstairs.

Cabinet member for adult social services, Cllr Graham Gibbons, said the council would continue to monitor the situation.

Continuity

He added: "Our officers are talking to the company to make sure we can help to provide continuity in care."

News of the firm's financial troubles darkens the gloom hanging over Kent's elderly population, who are already reeling from KCC's decision to close, demolish or sell a further 11 council-run care homes.

The county's five remaining Southern Cross homes are based in Medway and on the London border.

They are Copper Beeches in Rochester, Frindsbury Hall in Strood, Adelaide in Bexleyheath, and Lauriston House and St Raphael's, both in Bromley.

Medway Council says it pays £1.6m to fund the care of 49 residents at Copper Beeches and Frindsbury Hall.

A spokesman said: "We are aware of the recent news stories surrounding the financial situation at Southern Cross, and are in discussions to ensure they are properly provided for."

TV presenter-turned-campaigner Esther Rantzen came to the county on Wednesday.

The celebrity, best known for presenting TV's *That's Life* and founding the successful Childline telephone helpline, was in Dover to visit volunteers who help immigrants and asylum seekers held in a detention centre.

She spoke of the importance of the work charities such as the Dover Detainee Visitor Group (DDVG) do, and the important contribution immigrants can make to the country.

Miss Rantzen, whose own family came to the UK from pre-Second World War Poland, said: "I believe it is sometimes underestimated the contribution that asylum seekers and others make."

"Sometimes they are the cleverest, the most perceptive, the ones who won't go along with a corrupt regime. Not always, but sometimes."

"I have a particular reason to think that if we treat asylum seekers well, then they will give us more than they receive, like my great-great grandfather."

Shadow minister criticises health reform plans

SHADOW health minister Derek Twigg has criticised the Government's NHS reforms, saying plans for a £2 billion re-organisation were "reckless".

In the week the Government admitted it was going to put the overhaul on pause, the MP for Halton also voiced his fears that hospital waiting times would rise under the coalition's plans, which include transferring responsibility of commissioning services from primary care trusts to GPs.

His comments came during a visit to Dover and former MP for the constituency Gwyn Prosser – who held the seat for 13 years until 2010 – to rally support for Labour in preparation for the district elections next month.

Mr Twigg said he had confidence the party would make a comeback in Kent.

"People here are concerned about changes to health services," he said. "This is one of the biggest re-organisations when the country is in a difficult financial position. The proposals are reckless."

The coalition's plans involve phasing out primary care trusts and giving GPs responsibility over the NHS budget. They have come under fire from GPs, who believe it would put strain on doctor-patient relationships and introduce unnecessary competition in healthcare.

Mr Twigg's visit coincided with the launch of a counterproposal to the reform by the Commons' health select committee which proposed that consortia of GPs should instead become NHS Commissioning Authorities involving stakeholders including nurses, social care representatives and hospital doctors.

Mr Twigg said: "What people want to see is continued improvements – we shouldn't be spending £2 billion."

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THE INTERVIEW



BY JOE BILL

Singer John's a real Diamond

AFTER 3,000 performances in the pubs, clubs and hotels of the Canary Islands, arguably the best Neil Diamond tribute act on the circuit is heading to Maidstone.

Following 10 years of hard work, John Hylton finally brings his perfected show, Real Diamond, to the Hazlitt Theatre.

He said: "As soon as you hit the theatre circuit in the UK you will establish some kind of reputation, be it good, bad or indifferent.

"I didn't want to expose what I was doing to the UK circuit until it was as good as I could make it."

The 56-year-old has the haircut and the clothes, but he does one more thing that many other tribute acts cannot do.

Hylton said: "It is a bit of smoke and mirrors. I have the haircut, the clothes, I don't have Neil Diamond's nose and frankly I don't want it, but what I bring to the stage, is that I think I am the only Neil Diamond tribute artist that can play a guitar."

"And most tribute acts are rather tacky; the whole industry has got a reputation of one step away from prostitution. There is a lot of rubbish out there."

"I spent a year and a half, studying for one

Tribute act evolved 'due to audience demand'

hour a day, watching and practising Neil Diamond's performances. That is a lot of studying."

Although he offers the next best thing to seeing the star live, Hylton never set out to become a Neil Diamond tribute singer. In fact, he wasn't even that much of a fan.

He said: "I dabbled in playing live music with my guitar in little bands all through my teenage years, and when I left school everyone said 'you have to get a proper job'."

"So I did, but I thought it was horrible. Most of my working life I was in computers, but my heart was never really in it."

Redundant

"I was made redundant in my early 30s, by which time I had taken up playing in pubs and clubs to backing tracks and singing."

"I got quite a few shows and I ended up turning pro when the computer business fell on its knees in the 80s."

From there, Hylton and his family went out to live in Tenerife and he started playing the pubs and clubs.

But it was until there was overwhelming

public demand to hear him play Neil Diamond that John thought of changing his act.

He said: "I found out it was physically difficult for me to sing high notes with the baritone voice I have."

"I started putting Diamond songs and Chris Rea songs into my spot simply to save me from tearing my throat out."

"I was interested in Neil Diamond to some extent from my late teens and it was interesting to see that ladies liked his voice and I was hoping a little bit of that would rub off on me."

"So I started putting his songs in because I felt I could actually sing them quite well."

"People began to tell me they liked the stuff I was doing, but wanted me to sing more Neil Diamond stuff."

Although hailing from The Wirral, Hylton spent a period of his childhood in Canada where he picked up a mid-Atlantic accent.

He said: "It evolved from there and I thought, why argue with what the audiences are asking me to do?"

"Part of it was that having spent time in Canada I found the accent and the way Neil pronounces things not that difficult to emu-

late, so I turned the show. I looked at the market place and tribute acts very much have got a reputation of 'God, not another tribute show, there are millions of them'."

"I wish I had a pound for every time a person has come up to me and said 'if you close your eyes, you really sound exactly like Neil Diamond live'."

The Real Diamond tour will focus on Neil's 1980 album, The Jazz Singer. Many of the songs from that particular album are rarely featured in the Neil Diamond live set, so Real Diamond has something different to offer the fans.

Having previously played to 25,000 and 27,000 people at the Hull and Ipswich football grounds, John Hylton is confident he can entertain any Kentish Diamond diehards with his show.

• **Real Diamond - The Jazz Singer Tour** will be appearing at The Hazlitt Theatre in Maidstone on Friday, May 27.

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Print business a front for huge forgery scam

By JAMES BENJAMIN

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FOUR Kent men who produced fake banknotes worth millions of pounds have been jailed for a total of 24 years.

The trio concealed their counterfeiting business behind an apparently legitimate print business, but they were brought to justice after surveillance from the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA).

Phillip Brown, 44, from East Farleigh near Maidstone, and his brother Christian Brown, 33, from Locksbottom, near Farnborough ran the commercial printing firm.

Together with Mehmet Altinfincan, 27, from Bromley, the trio were part of an operation to print and distribute fake £20 notes. To date, notes with a face value of over £17.5m have been removed from circulation.

Surveillance of the Browns' business on Portland Road, South Norwood, London, established that it was a front for buying materials to produce counterfeit currency.

A computer containing images of scanned notes was seized from Altinfincan's home after the three were arrested by City of London Police officers in June 2010.

The contents of a shredder were retrieved from Phillip Brown's home,



CASH CON: Fake £20 notes were produced at the printing business

and analysis of the shredded material revealed counterfeit notes printed on the back of a poster.

SOCA's Trevor Symes said: "These criminals were attempting to rip off the UK public and legitimate business on a massive scale."

SOCA's investigation identified that the men were part of a crime gang involved in a range of activities. Officers found a full cannabis production facility in Phillip Brown's home, including 81 plants.

Daniel Brown, a cousin of Christian and Phillip, was responsible for distributing fake 50 Euro notes. However, it is not known if the Browns were responsible for producing these notes.

A quantity of 50 Euro notes, with a face value in the region of 350,000 Euro, was recovered from Phillip Brown's house, and more than 9.3 million Euro of the same series has

been withdrawn from circulation across the EU.

Another gang member, Bekir Arif, who had been released from prison on licence following a previous conviction for supplying heroin, was involved in making and distributing counterfeit one and two pound coins.

They were sentenced at Kingston Crown Court on Wednesday.

Phillip Brown pleaded guilty to cultivation of cannabis and abstraction of electricity. He was convicted of conspiracy to make counterfeit (£20) banknotes and conspiracy to deliver counterfeit (50 Euro) notes. He was sentenced to nine and a half years.

Christian Brown pleaded guilty to conspiracy to make counterfeit (£20) notes, conspiracy to make counterfeit coins, conspiracy to deliver counterfeit coins, conspiracy to deliver counterfeit (50 Euro) notes, cultivation of cannabis and abstraction of electricity. He was also sentenced to nine and a half years.

Mehmet Altinfincan admitted conspiracy to make counterfeit (£20) notes, conspiracy to make counterfeit coins, conspiracy to deliver counterfeit coins, and supply of cannabis and received five and a half years.

Bekir Arif, 57, of Perry St Gardens, Chislehurst, was convicted of conspiracy to make counterfeit coins and to deliver counterfeit coins. He was sentenced to eight years. Arif had been released from prison on licence.

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Sandling Road, Maidstone



By CHRIS MURPHY

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

TWO of the county's top stars from the world of art and music are to open the £17 million Turner Contemporary gallery.

The Margate gallery, which at one time was to be built at sea, has been dubbed one of the largest and most important spaces for art outside London.

Tracey Emin, who was born in the town, and Jools Holland, who lives in Cooling, near Strood, will open the gallery, with children from two Margate schools, Holy Trinity and St John's.

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Celebrity line-up for

JMW Turner went to school in Margate and was already a prolific artist, with many of his works hanging in his father William's shop.

The new gallery opens on Saturday, April 16, with the public allowed in from 10am.

Among the sights and sounds for visitors to experience is Graham Gussin's Illumination Rig 2011, which will be switched on at 10am, at the same time as the Cultural Baton caravan opens its doors to hear visitors' stories.

Willi Dorner's Bodies in Urban Spaces performance begins at 11am, followed later in the day at 8pm, by local band Cocos Lovers.

Expecting crowds of about 5,000, the gallery will stay open until midnight on the opening day and will then be open until 7pm from Saturdays to Thursdays and until 10pm on Fridays.

Gallery director Victoria Pomery said: "It will be a momentous day for Turner Contemporary and for Margate. The moment we open the doors and see visitors entering this fantastic new building will be very special."

Discovery

The opening exhibition explores the themes of imagination, discovery, wonder and the creative spirit.

A little-known work by JMW Turner, The Eruption of the Souffrier Mountains in the Island of St Vincent at Midnight, will be a centrepiece. It will be in Kent on loan from the Victoria Gallery and Museum at the University of Liverpool.

The opening will also feature the work of six international artists; Daniel Buren, Russell Crotty, Teresita Fernandez, Douglas Gordon, Ellen Harvey and Conrad Shawcross, including four new commissions.

Picture: © THE VICTORIA GALLERY & MUSEUM, UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL



Turner Contemporary chairman, John Kampfner, said: "The opening of Turner Contemporary marks the start of an extraordinary opportunity for Margate and Thanet to become one of the UK's most compelling culture and tourism destinations."

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opening of gallery



ART: Centre, JMW Turner's *The Eruption of the Souffrier Mountains in the Island of St Vincent at Midnight on April 30 1812*, from a sketch taken at the time by Hugh P. Keane, Esq 1815. Right is an artist's impression of the new *Turner Contemporary Gallery*. Left and right are Jools Holland and Tracey Emin, who will officially open the gallery next Saturday

Museum will be open, along with the town's galleries, studios, and shops, plus there is a bazaar, Artists Alley, in Market Square and art and craft stalls.

The money to build the David Chipperfield-designed gallery came from the South East England Development Agency, Arts Council England and Kent County Council.

• See www.turnercontemporary.org for more details.

"I would like to pay tribute to Kent County Council and our other partners for delivering this outstanding building on time and on budget."

There will be other art attractions in the town to celebrate the opening. Margate

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First choice for

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE vast majority of children in the Kent County Council area got their first choice primary school this year according to new figures, despite the number of applications rising for the second year.

The figures were equally impressive in Medway, which runs its own schools independently of the county council.

KCC said by the January closing date, some 16,249 applications were received for primary school places, up 1,329 on the previous year. In spite of this the authority said it was delighted with the response of its schools, confirming just under 85 per cent of new pupils got their first choice and 94 per cent got one of their choices.

Those who didn't get the school they wanted may be able to take up one of the more than 1,200 vacant classroom seats.

KCC cabinet member for education, learning and skills Cllr Sarah Hohler said: "The number of primary school applications has risen for the second year. Although we anticipated this and have been making plans, it is not until all the applications come in that we know the full picture and where the most popular schools are."

"We have done a lot of work over the last few weeks to make sure every child was offered a place, and it is pleasing the majority were given a school that they chose. This has been achieved by working with schools across the county to increase numbers to provide 345 additional places."

KENT County Council figures show a pleasing increase in the number of children being offered their first choice secondary school on March 1, up from 80 per cent in 2010 to 83 per cent in 2011.

Just 413 pupils got none of their choices.

With nearly 500 fewer Kent children in the system, waiting lists for popular schools are generally much lower this year.

There is a similar picture in Medway, with 87 per cent of children being allocated their first choice school, although this is helped by a fall in the age group of nearly 10 per cent.

Last year, the 18 most popular schools each turned away more than 50 children who put them in first place, but this year the same number of schools sees the bar drop to 40 places oversubscribed.

Leigh Technology Academy (Dartford) remains Kent's most popular school for the fourth year running, with 199 disappointed first choice applicants.

Second comes Tonbridge Grammar, with 104 girls who had passed the 11-plus turned away. After Westlands (Sittingbourne) on 94, comes Dartford Grammar School with 88, entering the lists for the first time as applicants from the London boroughs realised the school was accessible. A third of the places were allocated to high-scoring out-of-county applicants.

Next in line was Judd School (grammar, Tonbridge), followed by: Valley Park School

"For parents who have not been offered a school they had hoped for, we have included additional information on what to do next."

"Firstly, we are suggesting they visit the school they have been offered to speak to the teachers and get a feel for the school. They

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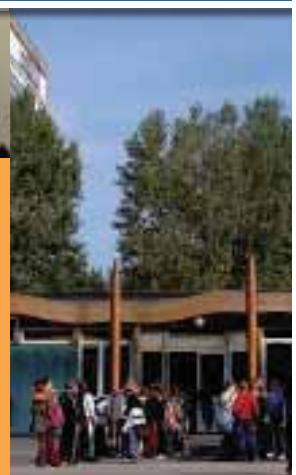
Accommodation

The boarding school is new and purpose built, it offers facilities to accommodate 40 children in the International Section. The building comprises bedrooms with en suite bathrooms... Three children share a room and dispose of a single bed with desk and chair. There are facilities for special needs, particularly for those physically challenged. The small number of pupils means that we can give them the individual attention they will need, particularly in the first weeks away from home. Two teacher assistants, one male and one female, are on hand day and night in the boarding school to help with homework and offer moral assistance and help to ensure their well-being.



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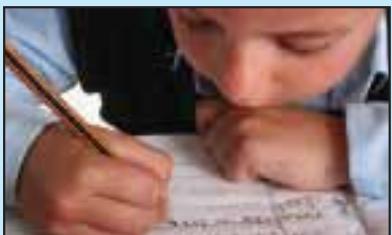


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most primary children

Winners and losers as numbers come in



THE WRITE STUFF: Most primary and secondary pupils will be pleased with their allocated school, say officials

(Maidstone); Fulston Manor School (Sittingbourne); Brockhill Park Performing Arts College (Hythe); Brompton Academy (Gillingham); King Ethelbert School (Margate – new entry); and The Thomas Aveling School (Rochester).

Then follows Skinner's School (grammar, Tunbridge Wells), slipping from its position as the most popular grammar school in 2010, and: Folkestone Academy; Dartford Grammar School for Girls; Canterbury High School; Hillview School for Girls (Tonbridge); Bennett

also have the option to go on a waiting list for a preferred school and lodge an appeal."

In Medway, the council said almost 92 per cent of pupils received an offer of a place at their first preference school for Year R admissions, and 99.8 per cent for

Memorial Diocesan School (Tunbridge Wells); and Simon Langton Girls Grammar School (Canterbury – new entry).

At the other end of the scale, four Kent schools were more than half empty before KCC drafted in additional children who had been offered none of their choices: Skinner's Kent Academy; Angley School (Cranbrook); Walmer Science College; and New Line Learning Academy (Maidstone).

One wonders how some of these schools can continue to function, with finances depending on pupil numbers.

The school with the greatest increase in popularity was Dartford Grammar School (up 55 disappointed first choices). The biggest loser was surprisingly Homewood School, in Tenterden, down 100, but still oversubscribed.

The pressure of out-of-county children taking up places in Kent grammar schools is once again greatest in the North West of the county, with 189 children taking up places in four Dartford grammar schools (52 of these coming from as far away as Lewisham and Greenwich) as opposed to just 57 in the three West Kent super-selectives, both figures very similar to last year.

Many of these figures will have changed this week, as parents had to decide whether

Year 3, which are junior school places.

The authority added that 97 per cent were offered a place at one of their named preferences and 100 per cent for junior admissions.

A spokesman said: "We received a total of 1,148 applications for junior school admis-

sions and 3,054 applications for primary school Year R places."

A specialist KCC team is on hand at 01622 696565 to help with queries for their schools.

There is also a choice adviser on 01622 694073 or 01622 694065.

Peter Read, independent education advisor



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A Shooting Star of the art world



VIC REEVES: Exhibiting paintings in Kent

By MARIJKE COX

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

COMEDIAN Vic Reeves is to unveil a surreal art collection of his playfully deranged paintings.

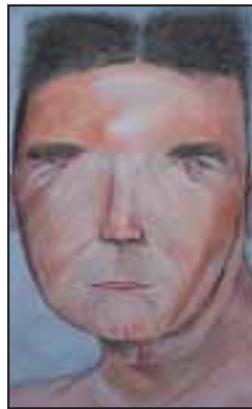
A collection of more than 200 pieces of art will be revealed by the Shooting Stars comic, real name Jim Moir, and Michael Hogben, art agent and star of TV show Antiques Man, at The Grand on the Leas in Folkestone.

An auction will be held on the last day of the exhibition, when the art pieces will be sold from £50 up into the thousands.

Mr Reeves, who studied art at Sir John Cass College in Whitechapel, is better known for being half of the comedy duo Reeves and Mortimer, alongside Bob Mortimer.

The popular pair met while Mr Reeves was setting up a performance art piece in a local pub.

His work includes unusual self-portraits, quirky celebrity paintings and distorted animal



pictures. The 52-year-old, who lives in Charing, near Ashford, with his family, admits that despite his successful comedy and TV career he has always considered himself an artist before anything else.

"I don't like to not be busy. People in TV and filming aren't really that busy. I write for maybe four hours a day and that allows me to spend plenty of time painting," he said.

"It's always terrible to let go of them, but that's the nature of it. I've started doing more landscapes recently."

Sinister

"I'm still learning all the time, but I thought people would probably rather have landscapes on the wall than some of the huge portraits I had been doing that some people found rather sinister."

His art agent Mr Hogben, from Folkestone, said Mr Reeves had exhibited in many world-famous galleries such as the Saatchi Gallery and Royal Academy, but this was the first Kent display and auction devoted to his work.

"What we're trying to do is establish a Kent

connection – it's a nice way of putting Kent on the map," he said.

"The art lets you enter a world of wackiness. There are so many different things to see and take away from it."

"Vic is respected in the art world. He has always considered himself an artist."

"His work has always been well received, from the moment he started exhibiting and selling it."

"This exhibition will be dynamic. We're expecting a big crowd and with high-speed trains we're expecting people to come from London to see it."

Open viewings of the exhibition are being held on Thursday, April 13, from 11am-7.30pm; Friday, April 15, from 11am-9pm; and Saturday, April 16, from 10am-2pm.

The auction starts at 2pm on Saturday.

The exhibition is being held in the art deco suite at The Grand.

For more information or for a catalogue of works, email thehogbens@googlemail.com.

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PULL OUT

KENT on SATURDAY **KENT on SUNDAY**

THE county council, police force and fire brigade say it is now vital to share resources in the public sector to ensure the safety of people living in Kent.

Speakers at a conference included Malcolm Dodds from the Court Service, Ann Barnes from Kent Police Authority, Ann Millington from Kent Fire and Rescue Service, Brian Pollett from Kent Prisons, and Sarah Billard from Kent Probation.

Representatives from these organisations, health and from within the criminal justice system came together to discuss how they will protect residents and keep cutting crime in the future.

They all agreed that building on the existing partnerships between them must be the way forward.

Disadvantage

After the event a KCC spokesman said: "There is now even greater emphasis on sharing public sector resources in order to keep communities safe. This was the key message from the Kent Community Safety Conference in the face of reductions in funding to public sector organisations."

Katherine Kerswell, group managing director for KCC, said that with major reforms taking place in all the public sector agencies, the council's priorities on tackling disadvantage, putting people in control and growing the economy, would rely on building partnerships between those organisations who can help make them happen.

Chief Constable Ian Learmonth talked about the role of neighbourhood policing.

Partnerships are key to public safety

He said: "The new Kent Policing Model has been built with neighbourhood policing at its heart. This means members of the public will continue to receive the high quality service they deserve and that our commitment to

working with partners is strengthened."

KCC cabinet member for customer and communities Cllr Mike Hill, who gave the welcome address, said: "We know we are facing tough times economically but despite changes

in funding, we are still determined to strengthen services which keep people safe."

"Our partnerships are strong and these will play an even greater role in how we tackle anti-social behaviour and threats to communities."

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Seeking a home for nuclear sub

By CHRIS MURPHY

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

WANTED – a new home for a Cold War-era Soviet nuclear submarine. Must be safe from spies and vandals, or a long restoration project could go down the tubes.

John Sutton, from Sidcup, has one of the most bizarre big boys' toys ever. He snapped up the decommissioned sub from the Russians, with the intention of carrying out a major refurbishment, and launching it once more as a museum.

The 46-year-old maritime expert said he would encourage investors to step forward to help with the cash flow, but his most pressing concern is finding it a new home.

The menacing 92m beast from the Soviet war machine is currently in Strood – hardly a James Bond location, but it's safe for the time being, Mr Sutton told KoS.

In decades gone by, the vessel was capable of launching nuclear strikes against prime sea targets.

Had World War Three broken out, this hunter-killer Black Widow sub could have used its 22 torpedoes, including two with low yield nuclear warheads, against Allied vessels.

As a private investor, Mr Sutton snapped it up in 1994 and the battle to bring it back to life has raged ever since.

The Foxtrot B-39, tagged U-475, is now celebrating its 44th birthday, having been put to sea by the Soviets in April, 1967.

Mr Sutton said: "It would be nice if someone came along with a sponsorship offer,

DREAM: This Foxtrot B-39 desperately needs to find a safe haven for restoration work



Picture SAM MURPHY

but we are not looking to sell it or go in to a partnership.

"We were approached a little while ago by Kalashnikov Vodka, which wanted to put its name on the side and aim the sub at London. There have been a few offers, and I am always willing to listen to would-be sponsors. "But my main worry at the moment is finding a permanent home for her. In the past, this vessel was patrolling the Baltic, searching for enemies at sea and training seamen from Libya, Cuba and India."

Mr Sutton said the sub arrived in London from the naval base in Riga, Latvia, in July,

1994, under the command of its Captain Vitalij Burda, who bid official farewell to his second home of the last 23 years.

She was at Long's Wharf, Thames Barrier, until 1998 and then moved to Folkestone.

The sub had been home to 77 crew members, despite being just 7.5 metres wide. It could be at sea for 90 days at a time, reaching depths of 250 metres, and had a submerged cruising range of 400 miles.

Mr Sutton said: "Getting her under water again would be a dream, and something we are aiming for."

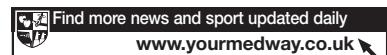
The readiness of this sub to kill is evident

from the sailors' bunks next to the nuclear missile bays.

Red Star symbols from the Communist party are still scattered throughout the vessel, a bleak reminder of the Cold War.

"We have some hull work to do on her, but other than that, and some painting, the big work needed is to get her back under her own power," said Mr Sutton.

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KENT Trading Standards have warned of bogus census collectors trying to con householders.

Officials say an elderly resident was approached by someone claiming to be a retired doctor, asking for her census form.

A spokesman said: "We are urging people to be wary of disclosing any personal information."

"Return your census as directed on the paper-

work and do not hand it over to anyone at the doorstep.

"If you are in any doubt contact the census helpline free on 0300 0201 101."

"Please also keep in mind that bogus callers will often use doorstep tactics to distract the homeowner while an accomplice gains access to the property via another route, this is known as distraction burglary."

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But an administrative blunder meant Labour failed to register any candidates for the two-seat ward.

And it meant heartache for Mr Preston who admitted he was "absolutely devastated", having spent the week canvassing ahead of polling day.

Labour had even got the local Lib Dems to consider running a low-key campaign, to allow the Labour man a clear run.

Lib Dem leader Alex Perkins said: "Using a football term, Labour had an open goal in front of them. John Gilbey has got a majority of 299 and Liam could have won the seat harnessing the student vote."

"I'm 47 now and been involved in local politics since I was 23. But I have never known such an enormous cock-up."

Cllr Gilbey said: "I've always said, I don't mind a challenge. And it's a pity I will be unable to do it."



MAJORITY:
Conservative
John Gilbey

Red-faced Labour forget to enter their candidate

A LABOUR Party plan to see Canterbury council Tory leader John Gilbey booted out of his ward at the upcoming local elections has collapsed, after blundering officials forgot to nominate their hotly-tipped candidate, *writes Ian Read*.

Now red-faced Labour chiefs have been left with the humiliation of not contesting the ward at all on May 5.

The leader of the local Liberal Democrats described the farce as "an enormous cock-up".

Labour had made the battle for the Blean Forest ward its number one priority in the upcoming elections.

The plan was simple – field Liam Preston, a member of the National Union of Students' executive committee and chairman of the British Youth Council – and harness the student vote to sweep to a famous victory against the incumbent Tory leader.

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Trust triumphs in bid to save historic homes

THE "greatest heritage save" in recent years has been pulled off at the 19th century Isle of Sheppey dockyard by a conservation trust, *writes Chris Murphy*.

Once heralded as the most advanced naval installation in the world, builders had wanted to raze the historically important buildings to the ground to build flats, but Swale Council members threw out the plans last year, saying they were not in keeping with the area.

They said the development would detract from the character and setting of the listed buildings and conservation area.

That left the door open for the City-based Spitalfields Historic Buildings Trust, which proceeded to raise £1.85 million with help from the Architectural Heritage Fund, to snap up the four-acre site in Sheerness.

On the land are 10 important listed buildings dating from the 1820s. The trust said it now intends to restore them as single homes.

These include Regency Terrace, a row of five elegant houses, and the magnificent Dockyard House, originally built for the chief superintendent of the yard. It was later converted to offices.

The three remaining properties



RESCUED: These elegant buildings will be restored to their former glory

will be held by the Trust, to be passed on to suitable purchasers.

The Trust said it is to submit the necessary planning applications, and oversee the rehabilitation of the site, and carry out repair work around Regency Terrace.

The trust says this will protect one of the most important and endangered historic sites in the South East.

Spitalfields trustee William Palin lives in nearby Naval Terrace, and is also secretary of Save Britain's Heritage. He said: "This is one of the greatest heritage rescues of recent years, and proof that viable conservation solutions can be found for even the most difficult historic sites."

"Spitalfields Trust has managed to assemble a group of sympathetic and passionate investors who will return this magnificent site to its former glory."

Negotiations are continuing over the future of the church on the site, which could be turned in to 22 flats and five terraced houses. The Trust would rather this became a community building.

The dockyard has been on English Heritage's national 'at risk' register for almost 10 years, and two years ago made it on to the World Monuments Fund's international Watch List of endangered historic sites.

The dockyard was planned and engineered by John Rennie and constructed by surveyors Edward Holl and George Ledwell-Taylor.

The dockyard closed in 1960 and since then has operated as a commercial port.

**Find more news and sport updated
www.yourswale.co.uk**

MEDWAY Council has received backing in the Commons for its decision to cut funding to trade unions.

Replying to a question from Chatham and Aylesford Tory MP Tracey Crouch, the Secretary of State for Communities Eric Pickles said other local authorities should follow Medway's lead after it reduced the trade unions' facilities grant by £46,000 and invest

this, plus some additional funds which totalled £92,000, in new library books.

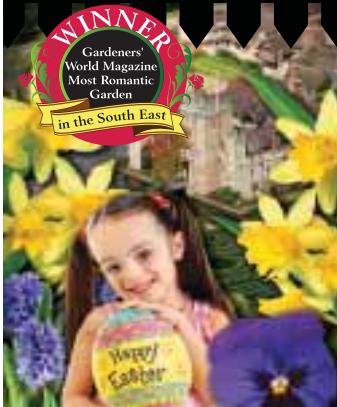
Mr Pickles asked Labour's Shadow Secretary of State Caroline Flint to "send out requests that Labour councils similarly look towards trade unions and reducing their costs".

Medway's deputy leader Cllr Alan Jarrett welcomed the endorsement from Mr Pickles.

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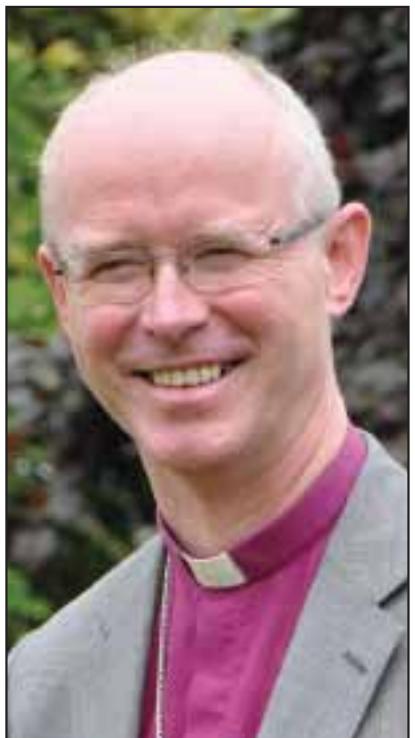
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CONCERN: The Right Rev James Langstaff

We need to build bridges says new church leader

By STEVE KNIGHT

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

THE new Bishop of Rochester has defended controversial comments made by his predecessor that some communities have become "no-go areas" for non-Muslims.

According to the Right Reverend James Langstaff, the previous head of the diocese, Dr Michael Nazir-Ali, was justified in voicing his concerns about the impact of cultural segregation in the UK.

However, he stopped short of recycling the term 'no-go areas', and pointed out that ethnic minority groups may also feel

excluded from towns and villages that are predominantly white.

The Rt Rev Langstaff said: "Dr Nazir-Ali has his own views and I'm sure he chose his words carefully, as clearly there are issues about the building of cohesive communities when areas become dominated by ethnic grouping."

"I wouldn't want to talk about no-go areas, but I do think we need to build neighbourliness and understanding between different sets of people."

"The same applies for areas dominated by white people, where others might find it difficult to live or work."

"But although I've yet to fully get to know this part of the world, my encounters with the Sikh community in Gravesend have been very warm and friendly, and there is a good level of



ETHNIC GROUPS: We need to build understanding, says the bishop

integration in that town."

The Rt Rev Langstaff was unveiled as the 107th Bishop of Rochester last June, but has only officially been in the post for about three months, representing about 1.2 million people in Bexley, Bromley, Medway, Gravesham, Dartford and most of west Kent.

Energy

He spent the previous six years as Suffragan Bishop of Lynn, in Norwich, having already spent 18 years in the diocese of Birmingham.

The married father-of-two told KoS he had so far spent time with eight of the 17 deaneries in the Rochester diocese, and hoped to have visited them all by June.

He said: "Everyone has been

very friendly and welcoming, and once I've met everyone face-to-face I aim to take a breath and reflect on what I've seen and heard.

"I'm fairly accessible and like to engage with people, and I've so far picked up a real desire and energy for the Church to be more heavily involved in the life of local communities.

"I think we can always do more, but what I've seen so far – such as providing mentors in schools, street pastors, and parent and toddler groups – has been pretty encouraging.

"A lot of churches are quite central to their areas, and that's something I'm keen to support."

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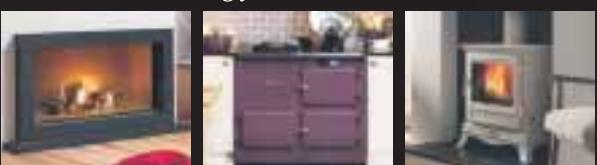
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Women 'have right to become bishops'

THE Bishop of Rochester says the General Synod was right to allow the ordination of female bishops.

While understanding the concerns raised by many traditional churchgoers, the Right Reverend James Langstaff says he believes the time has come to allow women to take control of certain dioceses.

The Synod is expected to debate the final approval stage in July, 2012, but last month a first wave of about 600 Anglicans – including more than 100 in Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks – officially left the Church of England and joined Roman Catholic churches in protest.

"I've always been in favour of ordination," said the Rt Rev Langstaff. "The question for me is what provisions we make for those people who are opposed to it."

Homosexuals

"I'm part of a generation who trained among women all the way through. I can think of one or two who I've known since I was 18, who have gone all the way through the same process and reached senior posts, but who can't become bishops like I have."

"Although I understand the arguments about why women shouldn't be able to take that step, I believe God equipped them in the same way as men. If he can call me to service then I don't see why he can't call them too."

Despite his support for the ordination of women, the Rt Rev Langstaff was less sure about the prospect of allowing homosexuals to become bishops.

While supporting the Archbishop of



SUPPORT: Women can be called to service like men, says the Rt Rev James Langstaff

Canterbury's view that gay men should be allowed to become bishops as long as they remain celibate, he stopped short of endorsing such a motion for Anglican churches worldwide.

It was probably best, he added, to let individual provinces decide what is best for them.

The Rt Rev Langstaff said: "While some churches in Europe and America will welcome gay bishops, there are others in parts of Africa and Asia where homosexuality is illegal.

"It's not an easy question to answer."



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Police spring surprise as car crime blitz extended

KENT Police say they are determined to crack down on vehicle crime as part of a spring blitz on crooks, **writes Chris Murphy**.

Senior officers have instructed patrols to take extra steps over the next few weeks to tackle the scourge of thefts from and of vehicles.

The issue has been included in the force's Stay Safe This Spring campaign, which ended this week. But the force has confirmed the vehicle crime element of the campaign will be extended until late May.

Teams will continue to operate across the county to target known crooks as well as offer advice to drivers on how to prevent car crime happening in the first place.

Assistant Chief Constable Gary Beaubridge said: "As I speak, vehicle crime teams in your community are acting on intelligence, executing search warrants and dealing with offenders. Their aim is to recover as much stolen

property as possible, and apprehend offenders so they can be dealt with through the courts.

"Our vehicle crime teams are employing a range of tactics to provide maximum opportunity to arrest those responsible for stealing vehicles and valuables."

The top 10 items stolen from vehicles include satellite navigation, parts, and exterior fittings, including number plates and door mirrors.

With cars using increasingly sophisticated security systems, thieves are finding their job is so much easier if they have the keys – and that means targeting homes to get them.

The police said offenders are known to break into homes in order to steal car keys, before taking the vehicle to sell on or use to commit other crimes.

Mr Beaubridge added: "We are also asking for your help in reducing and detecting

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vehicle crime. When you leave your car, make sure it is locked and there are no items left on display, particularly valuables.

"Take a look at your car as you leave it and ask yourself: is there anything I can see which would make someone break in? We would also ask that if you know of any crime being committed, or you are approached with an offer for cheap goods, that you contact us.

Police say people must take more measures to prevent theft. These include using tamper-proof screws for number plates and not leaving keys, handbags or valuables visible.



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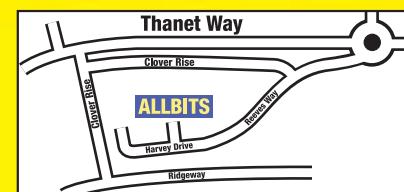
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CLOSE-UP: Students at EMR during the Crop Science Investigation event

BUDDING young scientists were given a taste of laboratory life at East Malling Research.

The CSI: Crop Science Investigation event was part of the institute's commitment to National Science and Engineering Week, and was attended by youngsters from Invicta Grammar in Maidstone, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar in Faversham, and Tunbridge Wells Grammar for Boys.

The A-level students were shown how trees can be DNA fingerprinted, how water moves within plants, and how to detect the proteins scientists use to determine the movement of insects and develop crop protection systems.

Head of science Dr Chris Atkinson said: "It was great to welcome such enthusiastic students. With the issues of food production and adapting to climate change becoming increasingly important, the field of horticultural research which underpins how the world's population will ultimately feed itself will become an even more exciting

career opportunity."

In an effort to demonstrate that not all science takes place in laboratories, the EMR team took the students out onto its 550-acre site near Maidstone, renowned for its advances in horticultural research.

The youngsters were given the chance to collect insects from trees to compare the varieties and numbers of bugs present in the different species of tree.

Dr Atkinson said: "The day gave the pupils a real hands-on experience, especially the time spent in the orchards, and I hope showed how we start to develop integrated pest control strategies from field research through into actual laboratory work."

EMR is a subsidiary of the East Malling Trust and an independent provider of research, development and consultancy serving the food chain and other sectors of the land-based industry. Customers include the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), commercial companies and the European Union.

Academy's lasting legacy

By STEVE KNIGHT

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

CONSTRUCTION experts have praised the success of a two-year training programme that came to a close last month.

Kent's National Skills Academy for Construction was formed in 2009 as part of a Labour government initiative to drive up the standard of industry training.

It was launched by the Kent Local Education Partnership 1 – a collaboration between Kent County Council, Partnerships for Schools, the Kier Group, and Northgate Managed Services – to deliver new school facilities in Gravesend and Thanet.

Other contractors involved were Willmott Dixon, Canterbury-based Provan

Construction, and Sittingbourne-based Denne Construction. In the past two years the programme secured 72 apprenticeships, found 25 young apprentice placements, recruited 26 day-release professionals, offered 102 work placements for local 14 to 19-year-olds, and provided 22 graduate summer work placements.

A skills co-ordinator joint-funded by KCC and CITB-Construction Skills was also employed to match school-leavers, the long-term unemployed and others with opportunities in the construction industry.

Gillian Cain, regional delivery manager for CITB, said: "In the two years since the skills academy has been running, it has made a noticeable difference to the local economy and significantly increased the employment opportunities of the local workforce.

"Kent's skills academy can really claim to have left a lasting legacy for the community

in which it was based." One of the roles of the academy was to ensure the partnership's main contractors met commitments to provide apprenticeships and work-related training opportunities.

Across the two years it also hosted 26 curriculum support events and 60 school resource days.

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter said: "We set some very demanding targets to make sure the investment in new school facilities benefited both the schools and local communities.

"This shows how KCC and industry can work together to improve employment opportunities and support the construction sector.

"I have championed work-placed learning alongside more traditional subjects so young people are as prepared as they can be for employment, or be prepared as they need to be for further education or training."

Kier's Tony Franklin said: "A key objective of the partnership was to ensure the communities in which the schools were built benefited. We are proud of our achievements in delivering an extensive range of employment and training opportunities, as well as employing 70 per cent of the trade workforce locally."

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Free internet training

WOULD-be silver surfers have been invited to enrol on a free training course delivered by Medway Adult and Community Learning Service.

Sessions will be held in May and June to help the over-55s who have never used a computer before. Run as part of the BBC First Click initiative, the course will teach participants how to navigate around a computer screen, search the internet and find out about online security.

"This is a great opportunity for anyone aged 55 or over to explore the world of information technology and discover that it's really easy to get started," said Carol Downey of the learning service.

"After people have tried the taster course we can then help them to develop the skills they've learned."

The first course will be at the service's

Gillingham centre in Green Street, from 10am-3pm on Tuesday, May 17.

The second will be at the Rochester centre in Eastgate, on Thursday, June 16.

Spaces on the first sessions in January filled up quickly and proved popular among those who took part.

Patricia Chivers, from Luton, in Chatham, said: "I was a bit nervous at the beginning but everything was very easy to understand and it's opened up a new world for me. I have a friend in Canada and thanks to this course I can email her regularly rather than having to wait for letters to arrive."

Spaces on the May and June sessions will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. A £5 reservation fee is payable but this will be refunded on the day. Call 01634 338400 for more details.

Apprentice boosts team

KENT Adult Education has added to its team of apprentices to help other learners enhance their own career opportunities.

Erin Rockell-Bennett is taking her apprenticeship in business and administration, and is based with the Key Training Services team in Tunbridge Wells.

She has been tasked with enrolling students onto courses and helping them with their inquiries, as well as assisting tutors and programme staff with timetabling and other administrative duties.

Erin said: "I didn't realise how big an organisation Adult Education was. The number and variety of courses they offer is amazing."

"In future I am hoping that having completed this apprenticeship I will have gained enough experience in customer services that I will be able to find a permanent position using my new skills."

To find out more about how apprentices can help your business, call 0800 731 4297 or visit www.keytrainingservices.org.uk.

Taking her art to the Max

A ROCHESTER filmmaker picked up an award at last month's National Student Film Festival.

University for the Creative Arts student Max Kimber, who is in the final year of her fine art degree at UCA Canterbury, won in the Best Experimental Film category for Cusp.

The part-time learner has picked up several accolades for the film, which she says

"examines the tenuous nature of life through a young fledgling".

She added: "It feels amazing to win another award. I am most certainly not taking them for granted."

"The success of my film hasn't made me want to move away from fine art. I view my filmmaking as an extension of my fine art practice rather than a destination, although I do have another film I want to make."



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22 March 2011 or 17 May 2011, 9.30 - 3.30pm

All courses are delivered at the Training Solutions Business Centre at Manston Park.

For more information, please contact the **Training Solutions Team** on **01843 605032** or email training.solutions@thanet.ac.uk



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Established 1961

Albany Motors is looking for a **MOT Tester / Mechanic**.

This is a successful family run business and is looking for a conscientious and hard worker.

Good rates of pay will be offered to the right candidate. Hours of work will be 08:30am to 5pm Monday to Friday (no weekend working).

This is a fantastic opportunity for the right candidate.

Please send in your CV to:

Steven Norcott, Albany Motors,
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Carers and Nurses required.**

Starting at £18,500 per annum,

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A major resource centre specialising in the care and support of adults with disabilities

Strode Park Foundation is a charity with over 60 years experience in working with people with disabilities, providing long stay and rehabilitation services.

Registered Nurse

Take the opportunity to nurse, where you can really make a difference, within our 56 bedded resource and rehabilitation centre supporting people with disabilities.

You will be able to offer a person centred approach to independence, well being and choice whilst every hour of your working day will be stretching and fulfilling.

- You must have at least 2 years relevant experience
- Working Hours: Full Time 30-37.5 hrs

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Are you looking to start a career in Health & Social Care or Child Care? We are currently looking to recruit Six Apprentice Carers under the Apprenticeship Scheme.

- Five successful candidates will work within Strode Park Foundations services supporting adults with disabilities.
- One successful candidate will work within Strode Park Footprints supporting young children with disabilities aged between 2yr -16 yrs of age.

Our dedicated senior team will provide you with all the training and support to obtain the Diploma 2 in Health & Social Care and Diploma 3 in Health & Social Care for Children and young people. Candidates should be nearly 18 years of age and up to 24 years of age.

Salary: £105.00per week

Working hours: 35 hours per week

For further details on the above posts please contact Sandra Wiltshire for an informal chat on 01227 373 292 or email: recruitment@strodepark.org.uk for an application pack.

The above posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure being obtained from the Criminal Records Bureau.

**The GREEN HOME Company**

LEADING SOLAR INSTALLATION COMPANY SEEKS

Administrators**£18000 + bonus + healthcare**

Award winning Kent based company seeks confident sales and contract administrators. Sales administrators will handle phone and email enquiries from potential customers. Contract administrators will play an essential role in organising/planning and liaising with the contract managers and installers.

You must have excellent IT/communication skills and you must be able to demonstrate experience in sales/contracts administration.

Please forward a CV by **21st April** to sue.palmer@gmlconstruction.co.uk**The Green Home Company**
Orchard House, Westerhill Road, Coxheath, Kent, ME17 4DH
www.thegreenhomecompany.co.ukTGHC is a subsidiary of GML Construction
and is an Equal Opportunities Employer**The GREEN HOME Company**

LEADING SOLAR INSTALLATION COMPANY SEEKS

Solar PV Installers**£24000 + bonus + benefits**

One of the UK's leading solar installation companies is looking for experienced installers to carry out solar PV installations in the South East.

As well as installation expertise, carpentry/roofing/electrical experience would also be a distinct advantage.

Please forward a CV by **21st April** to sue.palmer@gmlconstruction.co.uk**The Green Home Company**
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Email your CV to sunraysales@sunraydoors.co.uk
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CPI Mackays, the UK's leading book producer has vacancies for the following positions to join our busy Manufacturing Team at Lordswood in Chatham.

Please apply only for the position or positions that are suitable.

An attractive package is available to excellent candidates with a proven ability to multi-task and meet deadlines in a fast paced modern Manufacturing environment.

Ancillary Machine Assistant**Perfect Binder Trimmer Operator****Perfect Binder Operator****Factory Porter****Pressroom Operator / Overseer Night Shift****Forktruck Driver/Paper Storeman**

Send CV's and information on current remuneration to Paul Steed Factory Manager, CPI Mackays, Badger Road, Lordswood, Chatham, Kent ME5 8TD by the 15th April 2011.



The future of local media

Be a part of an exciting and growing team developing our portfolio across Kent

Telephone Sales Executive

Maternity Cover fixed term

If you are highly driven, confident, a self motivated team player with good communication skills, who is able to work under pressure to deadlines and targets, in our fast paced and fun telesales department, then apply.

You will be office based and working with an existing client base of advertisers where customer service is paramount, but you must also be able to search out new business to develop and grow your territory revenues and opportunities.

We believe and pride ourselves in good customer service, professional marketing solutions and excellent business relationships. We provide innovative ideas that will in return give our clients real value and response.

Media experience is not essential as full training will be given. We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

Please apply in writing with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:

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ARCHANT KOS MEDIA
Apple Barn, Hythe Rd
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Or email ynez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk

Media Sales Executives - Field Based x 2

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Full Time permanent - East & South Kent

KOS Media look for highly motivated people to create and sell multi-media solutions in our market leading portfolio including newspapers, magazines and digital sales.

We believe and pride ourselves in good customer service, professional marketing solutions and excellent business relationships. We provide innovative ideas that will in return give our clients real value and response.

Looking after and growing an existing customer base along with finding new business will form the basis of the job role. You will need to be a self motivated individual with sales experience, good communicator, tenacious and hard working to succeed in this environment.

Please apply in writing with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:

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Apple Barn, Hythe Rd
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Or email ynez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk

B2B Media Sales Executives - Field Based x 2

Full Time permanent - Tunbridge Wells

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We are looking for a highly motivated and experienced sales professional to drive new business and manage existing clients.

The ideal candidate should be comfortable with all stages of client relationship management and should be proficient at sourcing leads, securing new revenue, delivering presentations, writing proposals, negotiating and closing.

The person we are seeking will be an energetic and enthusiastic individual with excellent sales skills, a self starter; tenacious and will have excellent verbal and written communication ability. You will need to demonstrate a proven sales track record, preferably from within media (although this is not essential,) will have a good understanding of the benefits of printed, online and live media. Knowledge of the Kent marketplace would be beneficial.

Please apply with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:

Christine Davidson, Commercial Director
ARCHANT KOS MEDIA,
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We are an Equal Opportunities Employer



CPI Mackays, the UK's leading book producer has vacancies for the following positions to join our busy Manufacturing Team at Lordswood in Chatham.

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An attractive package is available to excellent candidates with a proven ability to multi-task and meet deadlines in a fast paced modern Manufacturing environment.

Paper/Purchasing Assistant – Part Time

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Send CV's and information on current remuneration to Paul Steed Factory Manager, CPI Mackays, Badger Road, Lordswood, Chatham, Kent ME5 8TD by the 15th April 2011.



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Qualified Electricians
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Must have 17th edition with Part P plus 2391 inspection testing and certification. Roofing and carpentry experience would also be a distinct advantage.

Please forward a CV by 21st April to sue.palmer@gmlconstruction.co.uk

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12 Months contract to commence as soon as possible
7.5 hours per week initially, increasing to 23.5 hours per week 1st July 2011
Salary: £7.27 per hour

We are looking to appoint a Deputy Facilities Manager/Receptionist on a twelve month fixed term contract to commence as soon as possible.

Duties to include meeting and greeting visitors; handling incoming calls, conference servicing and general reception duties.

The successful applicant will be versatile, friendly, confident and able to handle telephone and ICT systems.

Hours initially to be one day a week until the end of June 2011 and increasing to four afternoons and all day Friday from 1st July 2011.

For further information and an application pack please contact Leza Riley on 01843 598600 or visit our website www.marloweinnovationcentre.co.uk

Closing date: Thursday 21st April 2011
Interviews to be held week commencing 25th April 2011

The Marlowe Innovation Centre is situated on The Marlowe Academy site and shares The Academy's commitment to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and therefore the successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

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For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'About us' and then 'Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Closing date for both posts: Wednesday 13 April 2011

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CLOSING DATE: 6 May 2011

The Sittingbourne Community College
 Swanstreet Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 4NL
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- Teach a BTEC qualification in KS4 and Sixth Form
- Teach practical, land-based modules in KS3 science
- Manage the farm and the stock people
- Manage an extensive extra-curricular programme through the Young Farmers Club network
- Lead the development of our farm rebuild

Closing date for applications: 4pm 28th April 2011
Date of interviews: Week beginning 9th May 2011

Application forms and information from:
 Susan Allison, Personnel Officer, Meopham School,
 Wrotham Road, Meopham, Kent. DA13 0AH
 Telephone: 01474 814646 x234
 Email: sal@meopham.kent.sch.uk
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jhf@interpersonnel.ltd.uk
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Ramsgate
Salary £20,000 PA
To apply/more information:
Thanet Kidz Club
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Administration, Secretarial, PA

PQQ SUBMISSIONS CO-ORDINATOR

Ramsgate
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Piper Windows
piper@piperwindows.co.uk
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Salary £8.00 - £9.50 ph to start
TRAINEE OFFICE MANAGER
Required 42.5 hours per week -
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Previous experience working in a small business on a financial computer software package. You must have a full Driving Licence to drive company vehicle. Must have a good telephone manner and knowledge of computers to develop company website. Your duties will involve day to day operations of normal buying and selling procedures within a small business, accurate daily record keeping and filing of engineers site attendance into suspension And computer files, website development and other administration tasks as required. Rapid enhancement of pay structure for the right applicant. Written application with CV to Pauline Stirrups at Pauline@thepumppeople.co.uk
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Pauline@thepumppeople.co.uk
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Ashford
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To apply/more information:
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Co-ordinator

Ramsgate
Salary £20,000 PA
To apply/more information:
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Learning Resource Centre Manager

East Malling
Salary £16,793 to £18,471 pro rata
Learning Resource Centre
ManagerKent Scheme 5, 37 hours per week, 40 weeks per year(term time plus one week) £16,793 to £18,471 pro rata.
The Malling Holmesdale Federation is seeking an enthusiastic individual prepared to run a vibrant school library at the heart of The Malling School in East Malling.

To start asap after Easter. Qualifications in English and mathematics to GCSE grade C essential. Must be IT literate. Please see our website www.mhfederation.co.uk for full job description, person specification and application form. To discuss the role contact Sue Ricketts on 01732 840995 Closing date: 12:00 noon on Monday 4 April Interviews w/c 4 April MHF is committed to the safeguarding of all young people and this post will be subject to an enhanced CRB and CV check.

To apply/more information:
Malling School (The)
elaine.greenwood@
mhfederation.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Agriculture, Forestry, Environment

Gardener

Tunbridge Wells
Salary £9.00 per hour. Gardener required in the Tunbridge Wells area to work between 7-21 hours per week. Must have good sound knowledge in planting, pruning, hedge and grass cutting. Must work well on own initiative - own vehicle required. Rate of pay will start at £9.00 per hour plus fuel costs. For more information, please call 0800 032 0755.
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Site Maintenance Technician/Caretaker

Sittingbourne
Salary £14,099 - £15,984
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headteacher@
westlands.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

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To apply/more information:
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tracy.newberry@fnh ltd.co.uk
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To apply/more information:
New School at West Heath (The)
principal@westheathschool.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Co-ordinator

Ramsgate

Salary £20,000 PA
To apply/more information:
Thanet Kidz Club
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Catering, Hospitality

EXPERIENCED CHEF/COOK

Ramsgate
Salary Negotiable
EXPERIENCED CHEF/COOK Looking for a talented chef to create interesting, innovative menus. Must have passion for food with knowledge of Kentish produce understanding of budgets, stock management Award in Food Safety in Catering Level 2. If you have the skills, enthusiasm and passion required, please telephone 07973559729.

Catering, Hospitality

EXPERIENCED CHEF/COOK

Ramsgate
Salary Negotiable
EXPERIENCED CHEF/COOK Looking for a talented chef to create interesting, innovative menus. Must have passion for food with knowledge of Kentish produce understanding of budgets, stock management Award in Food Safety in Catering Level 2. If you have the skills, enthusiasm and passion required, please telephone 07973559729.

To apply/more information:
New Inn
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Salary Negotiable
The Plough Public House
Require a Full Time Head Chef & Assistant Chef. For a busy Pub/Restaurant. Experience Necessary and Knowledge of GP would be ideal. Must be hardworking and cope under pressure. To apply please call Ian on 01227 792428.
To apply/more information:
Plough (The)
theplough.swalecliffe@
.live.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Gardener

Tunbridge Wells

Salary £9.00 per hour. Gardner required in the Tunbridge Wells area to work between 7-21 hours per week. Must have good sound knowledge in planting, pruning, hedge and grass cutting. Must work well on own initiative - own vehicle required. Rate of pay will start at £9.00 per hour plus fuel costs. For more information, please call 0800 032 0755.
To apply/more information:
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Kent

Salary £10 - £12 Per Hour
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maidstone@
thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Child Care

Co-ordinator

Ramsgate

Salary £20,000 PA
To apply/more information:
Thanet Kidz Club
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

EXPERIENCED CHEF/COOK

Ramsgate
Salary Negotiable
EXPERIENCED CHEF/COOK Looking for a talented chef to create interesting, innovative menus. Must have passion for food with knowledge of Kentish produce understanding of budgets, stock management Award in Food Safety in Catering Level 2. If you have the skills, enthusiasm and passion required, please telephone 07973559729.

Catering, Hospitality

EXPERIENCED CHEF/COOK

Ramsgate
Salary Negotiable
EXPERIENCED CHEF/COOK Looking for a talented chef to create interesting, innovative menus. Must have passion for food with knowledge of Kentish produce understanding of budgets, stock management Award in Food Safety in Catering Level 2. If you have the skills, enthusiasm and passion required, please telephone 07973559729.

Cavity Wall Insulation Technicians

Pembury
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Skinner & Reeves
john@skinnerandreeves.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Loft Insulation Installers

Pembury

Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Molly Maid
vicky.irvine@
mollymaid-cleaners.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Cavity Wall Insulation

Technicians to operate in Kent & Sussex. Full C1 Driving Licence and ACOPS essential. Loft Insulation Installers also required. Permanent positions offered by construction company based inPembury established 50 years. Contact David on 01892 825564 or email david@skinnerandreeves.com.
To apply/more information:
Skinner & Reeves
john@skinnerandreeves.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Shop Fitter Joiner

Kent
Salary £11 Per Hour
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@
thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Traffic Mangement Ops

Kent
Salary £7 - £12 Per Hour
Traffic Mangement Operatives wanted for ASAP start. Day and night shifts available. Monday to Friday. MUST HOLD Lantra 12 A/B / 1 Day or 12D or NSW tickets.Also looking for Lantra Supervisors. Role will include working with a crews on high speed roads in the south east. Duties will include lane and road closures, stop and go and light control. Also maintaining road sides and all types of different road maintenance roles. The work will be starting in the Dartford area and covering Area 3 and 4 on Kent and Sussex Motorways. Please call Karen Davis on 01622 664999 for more details.
To apply/more information:
Fairview Homes Ltd
tracy.newberry@fnh ltd.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sub-Contract Electrician

Maidstone
Salary Negotiable
SUB-CONTRACT ELECTRICIAN Required for around three days per week.17th Edition preferred. Must have owttools and transport. Varied work.Rates by experience and negotiation. E-mail details to heronelectrical@hotmail.co.uk or phone Alan on 07926 068108.
To apply/more information:
Alan Skues
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sub-Contract Electrician

Maidstone
Salary Negotiable
SUB-CONTRACT ELECTRICIAN Required for around three days per week.17th Edition preferred. Must have owttools and transport. Varied work.Rates by experience and negotiation. E-mail details to heronelectrical@hotmail.co.uk or phone Alan on 07926 068108.
To apply/more information:
Alan Skues
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Plant Drivers

Kent
Salary £10 - £12 Per Hour
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@
thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Domestic

Sevenoaks
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
New School at West Heath (The)
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Care Domestic

Westgate
Salary Negotiable
PART TIME CARE DOMESTIC. Required in Westgate. Please call Debbie or Diane. Tel: 01843 831491.
To apply/more information:
Gordon Lodge
applications@kosmedia.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

IRONING SUPERVISOR

Maidstone
Salary Negotiable
FULL TIME IRONING SUPERVISOR FULL AND PART TIME CLEANERS AND IRONERS REQUIRED Maidstone area. Driving Licence Essential. Please call Vicki 01732 780935 or e-mail vicky.irvine@ mollymaid-cleaners.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Molly Maid
vicky.irvine@
mollymaid-cleaners.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

ASSESSMENT & PERFORMANCE DATA ANALYST

Northfleet
Salary £9,574 to £10,531 p.a.
To apply/more information:
Northfleet School for Girls
info@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

English as an Additional Language LSA

Sevenoaks
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Molly Maid
vicky.irvine@
mollymaid-cleaners.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

SHAMPOOIST/RECEPTIONIST

Sevenoaks
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Gillingham
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Aerospace Tooling
g.jones@
aerospace-tooling.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Health & Beauty

Swale, Medway
Salary £500-£1000+ per month
To apply/more information:
Arriba
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Assessment & Performance Data Analyst

Northfleet

CLEANERS AND IRONERS

Maidstone
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Molly Maid
vicky.irvine@
mollymaid-cleaners.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Northfleet
Salary Dependant on To apply/more information:
Northfleet School for Girls
info@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Domestic Trades

Gardener

Tunbridge Wells
Salary £9.00 per hour
To apply/more information:
DMS
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Site Maintenance Technician/Caretaker

Sittingbourne
Salary £14,099 - £15,984
To apply/more information:
Westlands School (The)
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Learning Resource Centre Manager

East Malling
Salary £16,793 to £18,471 pro rata
Learning Resource Centre
ManagerKent Scheme 5, 37 hours per week, 40 weeks per year(term time plus one week) £16,793 to £18,471 pro rata.
The Malling Holmesdale Federation is seeking an enthusiastic individual prepared to run a vibrant school library at the heart of The Malling School in East Malling.

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

TYRE FITTER / WAREHOUSE ASSISTANT

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT KOS MEDIA
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Jig Borer/Jig Grinder

Gillingham
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Aerospace Tooling
g.jones@
aerospace-tooling.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sheet Metal Worker / Welder

Sheerness
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@
thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Wire Eroder/Spark Eroder

Gillingham
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
LMS Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos

STORES PERSON

Sevenoaks
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
LMS Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Head Chef & Assistant Chef

Whitstable
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Plough (The)
theplough.swalecliffe@
.live.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

ASSISTANT PUB MANAGER

Chatham
Salary Competitive
To apply/more information:
Shepherd Neame
Quoting Job Ref: kos

CHEF de PARTIE

Cranbrook
Salary Competitive
Manager on 01580 713348.
To apply/more information:
Shepherd Neame
Quoting Job Ref: kos

SHAMPOOIST/RECEPTIONIST

Sevenoaks
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Hare and Now
tracy@thelidrew.orangehome.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Management, Senior Positions

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

TRAINEE OFFICE MANAGER

Aylesham
Salary £8.00 - £9.50 ph to start
To apply/more information:
A & C Pumps Ltd
Pauline@thepumppeople.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

A selection of the 100s of Local Jobs online

Salaries £11,968 to £13,164 p.a.

To apply/more information:
Hare and Now
tracy@
thelidrew.orangehome.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Northfleet
Salary Dependant on To apply/more information:
Northfleet School for Girls
info@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Domestic Trades

Gardener

Tunbridge Wells
Salary £9.00 per hour
To apply/more information:
DMS
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Site Maintenance Technician/Caretaker

Sittingbourne
Salary £14,099 - £15,984
To apply/more information:
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Quoting Job Ref: kos

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Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Jig Borer/Jig Grinder

Gillingham
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Aerospace Tooling
g.jones@
aerospace-tooling.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sheet Metal Worker / Welder

Sheerness
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@
thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos



Jobs by Email

Be the first to receive the latest Kent Jobs

ASSISTANT PUB MANAGER

Chatham

Salary Competitive

To apply/more information:
Shepherd Neame
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Office & IT Manager

Ashford

Salary £23,000 - £25,000

To apply/more information:
Kent Community Foundation
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Development and Marketing Officer

Ashford

Salary c. £21,000 - £23,000
Development and Marketing

Officer We are seeking a self-motivated Development and Marketing Officer to support the growth and expansion of Kent Community Foundation. We are an energetic and ambitious charity that supports hundreds of voluntary and community organisations across Kent and Medway. So if you want to make a difference to your local community, this could be the job for you. We are looking for someone with a successful track record in a business development role. Charity fundraising experience would be helpful but not essential. What is most important is excellent communication and relationship-building skills. You will have a positive, can-do approach working as part of a small hard-working and enthusiastic team, with excellent customer service skills. To find out more about this role, please email admin@kentcf.org.uk or phone 01303 814 500. Salary: c. £21,000 - £23,000. Full-time. Permanent.

Print, Packaging, Distribution

Estimator

Ashford

Salary Negotiable

Celebrating 130 years in the print industry, Headley Brothers Ltd is currently looking to recruit an Estimator. Working within the Commercial team and handling a range of print projects, as Estimator you would be responsible for: Producing accurate estimates, tenders and costings; obtaining pricing from internal sources and suppliers,

and preparing price matrices. Liaising with staff, suppliers and customers, to ensure provision of the best possible production alternatives and solutions to client requests. Supporting the Commercial Manager in ensuring the commercial success of the company. The ideal candidate will: Be self-motivated, highly-driven and dynamic; Have excellent organisational skills Be a strong team player, with excellent interpersonal skills Have strong oral, numerical and written communication skills; Estimating experience and/or a knowledge of the print industry would be considered useful, but not essential. Headley Brothers Limited is an Investor in People and an equal opportunities employer. Please send your CV to Paul Palmer, Headley Brothers Ltd, The Invicta Press, Queens Road, Ashford, TN24 8HH, or by email to: paul.palmer@headley.co.uk. All applications should include reference number: KUS01.

Closing date: Friday 15th April 2011. Please note that responses will only be issued to applicants that are eligible for interview. To apply/more information: Headley Brothers Limited andy.owden@headley.co.uk Quoting Job Ref: kos1

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

EARN AN INCREASING MONTHLY INCOME...

Kent Salary TBC

Distributors Wanted Run your own business without the usual risks... and help people save money! choose your own hours full training and support up-front bonuses earn a second income on-going commission no stock to carry Find out more! Call: 0800 781 2433. www.minibills.co.uk

To apply/more information:
Utility Warehouse
johnsmiths@minibills.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KOS

Sales People

Canterbury

Salary Negotiable

To apply/more information:
Your Local Business Marketing info@yourlocalbusinessmarketing.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Car Sales Executive

Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable

Bright new careers online

Register your details and we'll email you daily with new jobs that match your selected criteria

JobsforKent.co.uk
The smart way to find a job in the County

POWERED BY
KOS MEDIA

PUBLIC NOTICE



Property Address:
153 Livingstone Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 2EL

Notice of Offer

We are acting in the sale of the above property and have received an offer of £79,000.

Any interested party must submit any higher offer in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

Agent Contact Details:
Mann Countrywide, 88 High Street, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 1AX

Tel.No: 01634 851008

To apply/more information:
Invicta Motors
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Estimator

Ashford
Salary Negotiable

To apply/more information:
Headley Brothers Limited
andy.owden@headley.co.uk

Quoting Job Ref: kos01

Transport, Logistics, Aviation

LGV C+E (HGV1)

Drivers

Aylesford

Salary £9.25 - £14.00 per hour
Class 1 Drivers required for Supermarket work. Various ongoing shifts available weekdays, weekends, earlies and lates. You should have a good understanding of WTD and

drivers hours, whilst also being presentable and customer focussed. A digital tacho card is essential. Due to insurance, applicants must be over 25, have 2 years Class 1 experience and no more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DR, DD, CD, LC or TT). Please

contact Alex on 01622 664999 to arrange an interview. Alternatively, email CV to maidstone.admin@thebestconnection.co.uk The Best Connection Employment Group Cornwallis House, Pudding Lane, Maidstone, ME14 1NY.
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The) (The)

maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: AH04

Class 1 Drivers

Across Kent

Salary TBC

To apply/more information:
maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk

PREMISES LICENCES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Licensing Act 2003 Notice of Application for Grant of a Premises Licence Savers Health and Beauty Limited has given to Maidstone Borough Council an application for the grant of a Premises Licence for Savers, 76 Week Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1RJ. The licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on at the premises are the sale by retail of alcohol. The Licensing Register of Maidstone Borough Council is held at The Council Offices, King Street, Maidstone, ME15 6JQ and, where applicable, at www.maidstone.gov.uk. during normal office hours at the Council's above address and, where applicable, at the website. Representations which shall be made in writing may be made by an interested party or responsible authority to Maidstone Borough Council to be received at their above address by no later than Wednesday, 4 May 2011. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application; the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction being £5,000.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that **Thiyagarajah Arunthavachelvan of 153 Whitchill Road Gravesend Kent DA12 5LS** has applied to Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Street Gravesend DA12 1AU for the VARIATION of a Premises Licence for an off licence. Extension of Opening Hours are **Monday to Sunday 6am until 11pm** for the premises **Valley Drive Mini Market of 3 The Parade Valley Drive Gravesend DA12 5RT**. Any person wishing to submit representations to my application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 18 April 2011. The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: The prevention of crime and disorder, Public Safety, the Protection of Public Nuisance and the Protection of Children from Harm. It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale (£5000), under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application.

Notice of an Application for the Grant of a Premises License (Licensing Act 2003)

Notice is hereby given that **Christine Cobourn** has applied to Ashford Borough Council for the Grant of a Premises License for Sale of Alcohol from 08:00 until 20:00 Monday to Sunday for the premises **The Barn Shop** situated at Canterbury Road, Challock, TN25 4BJ.

A register of licensing applications can be viewed at the Licensing Section, Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent TN23 1PL 01233 330721 by appointment.

Any person wishing to submit representations to this application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by – 4th May 2011.

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: The prevention of crime and disorder, Public Safety, the Protection of Public Nuisance and the Protection of Children from Harm.

It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale (£5000), under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application.

PLANNING

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Town and Country Planning Act

Notice of Applications

MA/10/2071/S - BLETCHENDEN MANOR FARM, BLETCHENDEN ROAD, HEADCORN, ASHFORD, KENT, TN27 9JB - Application for listed building consent for conversion of redundant stable and cattle shed to 2no. separate dwellings. **Reason:** 3

MA/11/0310/S - 92, THE QUARRIES, BOUGHTON MONCHelsea, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4NJ - Erection of two storey rear extension. **Reason:** 1

MA/11/0406/S - BYDEWS BARN, FARLEIGH HILL, TOWIL, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0JB - An application for listed building consent for alterations to property including replacement windows, replacement of plain tile roof with breathable felt and new tiles and replacement of slate clips with new concealed clips and provision of tarmacadam drive. **Reason:** 3

MA/11/0409/S - BERESFORDS, BERESFORDS HILL, BOUGHTON MONCHelsea, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4LX - Amendment to **MA/09/0392** (construction of permissive footpath) to include erection of 1.6m fencing. **Reason:** 1

MA/11/0411/N - THORNHAM MILL PLACE, OTHAM LANE, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 8SJ - Application to remove condition 1 of MK3/56/151A which states that the lean-to, which projects from the main wall towards the road, will at some future time be demolished for road improvements. **Reason:** 1

MA/11/0417/S - HILLSIDE, HAYLE PLACE, CRIPPLE STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 6DW - Erection of detached garage with store and entrance gates and alterations to existing vehicular access. **Reason:** 1, 2

MA/11/0420/S - HAVEN FARM, NORTH STREET, SUTTON VALENCE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3HS - Variation of condition 15 of planning permission **MA/09/2349** (change of use of land from agricultural for the erection of 12no. dwellings with associated work) to go from requiring a minimum of Level 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes to a minimum of Level 3. **Reason:** 6

MA/11/0428/S - 7, MOAT ROAD, HEADCORN, ASHFORD, KENT, TN27 9NT - Erection of a two storey side extension, involving demolition of existing garage. **Reason:** 2

MA/11/0430/S - 7, MOAT ROAD, HEADCORN, ASHFORD, KENT, TN27 9NT - Conservation area consent for demolition of existing single storey garage. **Reason:** 4

MA/11/0441/N - POST OFFICE STORES, 16-20, THE STREET, DETLING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 3JT - Change of use and conversion of Detling Post Office Stores back into three cottages. **Reason:** 1, 2

MA/11/0458/N - 58, WARE STREET, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 4PQ - Erection of a single storey side/rear extension. **Reason:** 1

Reasons for advertisement key:

- 1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
- 2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
- 3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
- 4 - Application is for Conservation Area Consent.
- 6 - Application is Major Development.

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **24th April 2011**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 10th April 2011.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

KCC/MA/0137/2011 - Proposed development at Leeds & Broomfield CEP School, Lower Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent, ME17 1RL.

Leeds & Broomfield CEP School is applying to the Kent County Council for planning permission for the provision of new access to playground from classroom and the erection of a protective canopy over. The proposed development is within the Lower Street, Leeds Conservation Area and is likely to affect its character and/or appearance. The proposed development also may affect a Public Right of Way.

You may view this application at Maidstone Borough Council, The Gateway Reception, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ or at our offices at the address below during all reasonable office hours. Alternatively, details of the application can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/planning

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 10 April 2011



Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

11/00743/FUL **Benenden Girls School Cranbrook Road, Benenden**
- Proposed single storey extension to Guldeford House housemistress's apartment with first floor balcony (LB)

11/00857/LBC **Pippins Geddes Hill, Brenchley**
- Listed Building Consent: Replace three windows to front and two to rear of property. Install three secondary double glazing units inside (LB)

11/00900/LBC **The Oasis Tearooms 17 High Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Listed Building: Removal of internal wall (LB)

11/00896/LBC **Barn & Outhouse 20M N Of Park Farmhouse, Horsmonden**
- Listed building consent: To retain temporary cover to roof and walls of barn and outhouse, works already carried out (LB)

11/00883/HOUSE **32 Birling Drive Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Single storey rear extension to provide kitchen/breakfast room and replacement of utility room roof with single pitch roof, including extension to create porch area (CA)

11/00920/HOUSE **Sponden Old Hall Sponden Lane, Sandhurst**
- Replacement garage block (LB)

11/00822/HOUSE **Broomlea Langton Road, Speldhurst**
- Loft conversion with alteration to roof to include 2 cottage style dormers to rear (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall
Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS
Dated: 09 April 2011



To place your notice here
call the Kent Public
Notice team on
01303 817044

PUBLIC NOTICES

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Ashford

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD)
(20 MPH SPEED LIMIT ZONE) ORDER 2011
(PROHIBITION OF WAITING) ORDER 2011
(PROHIBITION OF LEFT HAND TURNS) ORDER 2011**

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE NEW ROADS AND STREET WORKS ACT 1991 AND THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACT 2004

NOTICE is hereby given that The Kent County Council has made Orders under Sections 1, 2 and 124 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended by Schedule 8 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 and part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004, the effect of which has introduced a Restricted Parking and 20mph speed limit zone on a small section of Victoria Road from a point 30.0 metres north west of the mid point of the shared cycle / pedestrian footpath known as "Learning Link", south eastwards to a point 10.0 metres south east of the mid point of its junction with Victoria Crescent.

The School – Keep Clear Marking in Victoria Road outside of the school entrance will be remarked and be enforced to prevent vehicles causing obstruction to traffic flows. The remaining lengths of Victoria Road, Beacon Road and Gasworks Lane are subject to "At Any Time" Waiting Restrictions; along with a small section of Bowens Field where parked vehicles have caused limited access to the existing footbridge.

It is also proposed under Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, that turning left from Victoria Crescent into Victoria Road, Ashford has been prohibited. This is a safety measure preventing larger vehicles that often visit the industrial area in Victoria Crescent, from exiting onto the opposing carriageway of Victoria Road.

A copy of the Orders which shall come into operation on Monday 11th April 2011, an explanatory statement and a map showing the extents of the scheme may be inspected during normal office hours at The Kent County Council Offices, Sessions House, County Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX and at Ashford Borough Council Offices, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

**WATER LANE, STURRY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of BT ducting works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Water Lane, Sturry, on or after 16 April 2011 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via A28 Mill Road and Fordwich Road.

It is planned that the works will be carried out on Saturday 16 April and Sunday 17 April, with a further closure on Monday 18 April after 2.00 pm to reinstate the road surface.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, DARTFORD)
(PROVISION OF WAITING) CONSOLIDATION
(AMENDMENT NO. 8) ORDER 2011**

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE NEW ROADS AND STREET WORKS ACT 1991 AND THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACT 2004

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers under Sections 1, 2 and 124 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended by Schedule 8 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 and part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004, has made an Order the effect of which has extended the existing "At Any Time" Waiting Restrictions on A226 London Road, Stone in Dartford.

The Kent County Council has secured funding for a safety improvement scheme to the existing crossroads junction at A226 London Road, B2174 Hedge Place Road and Stone Place Road, Stone, Dartford.

This scheme involved the removal of the existing Zebra crossing and the introduction of signal control on all four arms of the junction. As the proposed pedestrian crossings are to be controlled within the traffic signal scheme the standard zig - zag road markings have not been installed.

A copy of the Order which shall come into force on Monday 11th April 2011, an explanatory statement and a map showing the extents of the waiting restrictions may be inspected during normal office hours at the Kent County Council Offices, Sessions House, County Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ, Dartford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1DR and Stone Parish Council Offices, Recreation Ground, London Road, Stone, DA9 9DQ.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision

contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

**FULBERT ROAD & ROKESLEY ROAD, DOVER
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Fulbert Road & Rokesley Road, Dover, on or after 13 April 2011 for up to 8 days or until the works have been completed.

The entire lengths of each road will be closed in rolling sections, as advised and signed on site.

Access will be maintained from either Fulbert Road or Rokesley Road as signed locally, with other access maintained whenever it is safe to do so.

**MARINE PARADE, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Marine Parade, Dover, on or after 14 April 2011 for up to 6 weekdays or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Townwall Street and Waterloo Crescent.

The alternative route is via A20 Townwall Street, Snargate Street, Prince of Wales Roundabout to Union Street, Esplanade and Waterloo Crescent.

THE STREET, SHOLDEN, DEAL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of BT works to clear a blockage in a duct in the carriageway, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Street, Sholden, Deal, on or after 26 April 2011 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between numbers 30 and 61.

The alternative route is via The Street, A258 London Road and Sholden New Road.

WILLOW ROAD, GREAT MONGEHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to construct a kerb build-out, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Willow Road, Great Mongeham, on or after 11 April 2011 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Deal Road and Northbourne Road.

The alternative route is via Deal Road, The Street and Northbourne Road.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, DEAL,
DISTRICT OF DOVER) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND
STREET PARKING PLACES) (AMENDMENT NO. 4) ORDER
2011**

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Order under Sections 1, 2 and 124 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of this Order will be to introduce no loading or unloading on Monday to Saturday 10.00am – 4.00pm on the following lengths.

HIGH STREET On the eastern side from the junction with Market Street to the junction with King Street.

On the western side from the junction with Stanhope Road for a distance of 40 metres in a southerly direction.

KING STREET On both sides from the junction with High Street for a distance of 20 metres in an easterly direction.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be examined on Mondays to Fridays in the offices of Sheppway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, between 9.00am and 5.00pm and at Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone during normal open hours from 11 April 2011.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order, you should send the grounds for your objection in writing to Highway Services, Transport and Development, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way,

Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to td.eastkent@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 2 May 2011

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(A226 SPRINGHEAD ROAD, NORTHFLEET)
WEIGHT LIMIT RESTRICTION, 2011**

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under 1, 2(4) and part IV of Schedule 9 section 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order prohibits any person to cause any vehicle capable of exceeding 7.5 tonnes gross weight from using the A226 Springhead Road, from the junction with A226 Hall Road to point 25 metres south east of the junction with Holdane Gardens subject to exemptions for loading and unloading, emergency service vehicles and public service vehicles:-

The Order was sealed on 4 April 2011 and will come into force 11 April 2011.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Gravesham Borough Council Offices, Civic Centre, Gravesham and at Sessions House, Maidstone during normal opening times from 11 April 2011.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(DUNN STREET ROAD, BREDHURST)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Dunn Street Road from Forge Lane to Lidsing Road on or after Sunday 1st May 2011 for a period of up to 2 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Forge Lane, Lidsing Road.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused, which is necessary for highway improvement works. Should you require any further information for these works, please contact Darren Hickman on 0845 247 800.

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
HIGH STREET, YALDING (SPECIAL EVENT)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC)
ORDER 2011**

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (SPECIAL EVENTS) ACT 1994

Notice is hereby given that whilst an event is taking place on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on the High Street, Yalding.

The Order will be effective between 1400hrs to 2000hrs on the 29th April 2011 or until the event finishes. The road will remain closed when appropriate signage is displayed on site.

The alternative routes for traffic during the event will be signposted. For light vehicles via Vicarage Road, Mill Lane and for large goods vehicles via the B2010/A229/B2015/B2162 or vice versa.

The purpose of the Order is to enable the Royal Wedding street party to take place.

For further information please contact Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, TIVIL AND EAST FARLEIGH)
(40 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2010**

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council has made an Order under Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to impose a 40 miles per hour speed limit on the lengths of roads described in the Schedule hereto.

A copy of the Order, an explanatory statement and maps showing the lengths of road concerned may be

inspected during normal office hours at Kent Highway Services, Network Management, Invicta House, Maidstone Kent, ME14 1XX and at the offices of Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ

The Order was sealed on 8 April 2011 and will come into force 11 April 2011.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Sessions House, Maidstone Kent and at the offices of Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ during normal opening times from 11 April 2011.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been compiled with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

Schedule 40mph Speed Limit

In the Parish of East Farleigh**B2010 Lower Road, East Farleigh**

From the Parish boundary of Tovil south-westwards to a point 11 metres north-east of the centre line of the access to "Little Court Lodge Farm"

In the Parish of Tovil**B2010 Dean Street, Tovil**

From a point in line with the common boundary of house number 143/145 Dean Street south-westwards to the Parish boundary of East Farleigh

C65 Dean Street, Tovil

From its junction with B2010 Dean Street southwards to a point 66 metres north of the centre line of the access to "Valley Farm"

ROAD FARM LANE, OTTERDEN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to replace a telegraph pole, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Road Farm Lane, Otterden, on or after 26 April 2011 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Slade Road for a distance of approximately 100 metres northwards.

The alternative route is via Seed Road, Frith Road, Foxen Road, Wyebanks Road and Road Farm Lane.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

**STATION ROAD & BROCA ROAD, HEVER - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Station Road & Brocas Road, Hever between Brocas Farm and road leading to Hever Station.

The Order will become effective on 11th April 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 12th April 2011 and last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Hartfield Road, Lydens Lane, New House Farm Road and Hever Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate BT works.

**VARIOUS ROADS, SEVENOAKS/DARTFORD/
GRAVESEND/TONBRIDGE & MALLING/
TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND MAIDSTONE - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because works are being carried out on or near the road Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on the routes described in schedule 1 and schedule 2 below.

The Order will become effective on 18th April 2011 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months. The dates shown in the schedules are anticipated dates however actual work dates will be displayed by signage on site 7 days in advance. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800
(local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



HIGHWAYS

The alternative routes for the restrictions are also stated in the attached schedules.

The roads in schedule 1 will need to be re-closed approximately 7 days after original closure to carry out road sweeping and replacement of lines.

Schedule 1**Sevenoaks**

Road Name: Spring Hill, Penshurst
Extent: Between The Lane and Sandfield Road
Date: 27th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: B2188 Fordcombe Road, A264 Ashurst Road, Stonecross, A264 Langton Road, Langton Green, A264 Bishops Down, A264 Mount Ephraim, A26 St Johns Road, A26 London Road, Southborough, B2176 Bidborough Ridge, Bidborough, B2176 Penshurst Road, B2176 Rouges Hill, Penshurst, B2188 Fordcombe Road, Penshurst, B2188 New Road, Penshurst and B2188 Saints Hill, Penshurst.

Road Name: Hopgarden Lane, Sevenoaks
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 28th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Ashgrove Road, Oak Lane and Grassy Lane

Road Name: Old London Road, Halstead
Extent: Between A224 London Road and Watercroft Road
Date: 3rd May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: A224 Orpington by Pass, Wheatsheaf Hill and Old London Road

Road Name: Honeypot Lane, Kemsing
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 3rd May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Noah's Ark, St Edith's Road, High Street, Heaverham Road and Watery Lane

Dartford

Road Name: Ship Lane, Sutton at Hone
Extent: Between A225 Main Road and Church Road
Date: 4th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: A225 Main, A20 Main Road/London Road, Button Street and Wood Street

Gravesend
Road Name: White Horse Lane, Meopham
Extent: Between Harvel Road and Dean Lane
Date: 4th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Harvel Street, Harvel Lane and Harvel Road

Road Name: Cobhambury Road, Cobham
Extent: Between The Street and Warren Road
Date: 5th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: The Street, Sole Street, Gold Street, Henley Street and Luddesdown Road

Road Name: Church Lane, Chalk
Extent: Between A226 Rochester Road and Lower Higham Road
Date: 5th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Lower Higham Road, Vicarage Lane, Chalk Road and A226 Rochester Road

Road Name: White Post Lane, Cobham
Extent: Between Round Street and Copt Hall Road
Date: 5th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Round Street and Copt Hall Road

Road Name: Jeskyns Road, Cobham
Extent: Between Sole Street and Round Street
Date: 5th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Sole Street and Round Street

Road Name: Shorne Ifield Road, Shorne
Extent: Between Mill Hill Lane and Thong Lane
Date: 6th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Crown Lane, Forge Lane, A226 Gravesend Road, A226 Rochester Road and Thong Lane

Road Name: Telegraph Hill, Higham
Extent: Between A226 Gravesend Road and Hermitage Road
Date: 6th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Hermitage Road, Forge Lane and A226 Gravesend Road

Tonbridge & Malling

Road Name: Old Church Lane, East Peckham
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Park Road, Roydon Hall Road and A228 Seven Mile Lane

Road Name: Roydon Hall Road, East Peckham
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Park Road, Roydon Hall Road and A228 Seven Mile Lane

Road Name: Bewley Lane, Plaxtol
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 19th April 2011 for 2 working days

Diversion: between 07.00 – 19.00
A227 Tonbridge Road, Plaxtol Lane, Tree Lane and Yopp Green

Road Name: Labour in Vain Road, Wrotham
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 19th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00

Diversion: Plaxtol Green Road and Tumblefield Road

Road Name: The Heath, East Mallings
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 19th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00

Diversion: Wateringbury Road, Chapel Street, High Street, Mill Street, Clare Lane, Broadwater Road and Pike Lane

Road Name: Lower Street, Hildenborough
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 27th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00

Diversion: Underriver House Road, Mill Lane, B245 Dryhill Park Road and A227 Shipbourne Road

Road Name: Stan Lane, West Peckham
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 28th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00

Diversion: Swanton Road, The Hurst, Gover Hill and Forge Lane

Road Name: Longmill Lane, Plaxtol
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 3rd May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00

Diversion: Dunks Green Road, Hamptons Road, School Lane and The Street

Road Name: Vigo Hill, Trottiscliffe
Extent: Between A227 Gravesend Road and Taylors Lane

Date: 4th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: A227 Gravesend Road, A20 London Road, Ford Lane and Taylors Lane

Road Name: Knowle Road, Woudham
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 6th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: High Street, School Lane and Pilgrims Way

Tunbridge Wells

Road Name: Ethnham Lane, Sandhurst
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00

Road Name: Frittenden Road, Cranbrook
Extent 1: Between A229 to Common Road
Extent 2: Between Common Road to Digdog Lane
Date: 20th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00

Diversion 1: Common Road and A229
Diversion 2: Frittenden Road, Digdog Lane, A262 Sissinghurst Road, High Street and Common Road

Road Name: London Road, Cranbrook
Extent: Between Frittenden Road and A229
Date: 20th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Frittenden Road, Common Road and A229

Road Name: Spongs Lane, Cranbrook
Extent: Frittenden Road and A229
Date: 20th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Frittenden Road, Common Road and A229

Road Name: Water Lane, Hawkhurst
Extent: A268 one way section to St Ronan's School

Date: 31st April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Water Lane, A268 Rye Road, A229 Cranbrook Road, Potters Lane and Water Lane

Road Name: Glassenbury Road, Cranbrook
Extent: Between A262 Goudhurst Road and Chalk Lane
Date: 21st April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: A262 Goudhurst Road, A229 Angley Road, Hartley Road and B2085 Glassenbury Road

Road Name: Church Road, Paddock Wood
Extent: Between Mile Oak Road and Warrington Road
Date: 26th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Mile Oak Road, Mascalls Court Road, B2169 Maidstone Road, Warrington Road and Church Road

Road Name: Queen Street, Paddock Wood
Extent 1: Between Mascalls Court Lane and Church Road
Extent 2: Between Church Road and Lucks Lane
Date: 26th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00

Diversion 1: Mascalls Court Lane, Mascalls Court Road, B2169 Maidstone Road, Warrington Road and Church Road
Diversion 2: Church Road, Warrington Road, Maidstone Road and Lucks Lane

Road Name: Bewley Lane, Plaxtol
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 19th April 2011 for 2 working days

Road Name: Fordcombe Road, Speldhurst
Extent: Between A264 Ashurst Road and

Date: 27th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: B2188 Fordcombe Road, Spring Hill, Saints Hill, New Road, Fordcombe Road, B2176 Rouges Hill, Penshurst Road, Bidborough Ridge, A26 London Road, St Johns Road, London Road, A264 Church Road, Mount Ephraim, Bishops Down and Langton Road

Road Name: Foxhole Lane, Hawkhurst
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 12th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: A268 Rye Road and Hinksden Lane

Road Name: Maidstone
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Church Hill, Lower Farm Road and Long Lane

Road Name: Lenham Forstal Road, Lenham
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Forstal Road, Malthouse Lane, A20 Ashford Road/Maidstone Road, Charing Heath Road/Fife Lodge Road and Church Hill

Road Name: Forstal Road, Lenham
Extent: Frontage to Lenham Forstal Cottages
Date: 18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Lenham Forstal Road

Road Name: Broomfield Road, Broomfield
Extent: Between Ashford Road and Gravely Bottom Road
Date: 18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Broomfield Road, Chartway Street, A274 Maidstone Road, B2163 Leeds Road/Upper Street/Lower Street/Penfold Hill and A20 Ashford Road

Road Name: Stickfast Lane, East Sutton
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: East Sutton Road, A274 Maidstone Road, Tattlebury Road and Tilden Lane

Road Name: Church Road, Otham
Extent: Between Firthwood Close to Whitehorse Lane
Date: 19th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Gore Court Road, A274 Sutton Road, Willington Street and Deringwood Drive

Road Name: Warmlake Road, Chart Sutton
Extent: Between A274 to Ivans Field
Date: 19th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Amber Lane, Back Lane, Wierton Lane, B2163 Heath Road, Plough Wents Road and A274 Maidstone Road

Road Name: Wierton Hill, Boughton Monchelsea
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 20th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Lower Farm Road, Church Hill, B2163 Heath Road and Wierton Lane

Road Name: Grange Lane, Boxley
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 6th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Boarley Lane, Sandling Lane and Boxley Road

Road Name: Underlyn Lane, Marden
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 17th and 24th April 2011 between 09.00 – 19.00
Diversion: B2079 Maidstone Road/High Street/Church Green/West End/Goudhurst Road, Sheephurst Lane, B2162 Benover Road and Green Lane/Hunton Road

Road Name: Cowden Pound Road, Hever
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 15th June 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Uckfield Lane, Station Road and Hever Warren Road

Road Name: Nicholson Way, Sevenoaks
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 16th June 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: North Ash Road, Ash Cum Ridley

Road Name: North Ash Road, Redhill Road
Extent: Between Ash Road and Redhill Road
Date: 16th June 2011 for 10 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Ash Road and Redhill Road

Road Name: Dartford
Extent: Entire Length
Date: 11th May 2011 for 8 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Dale Road, Station Road, Betscham Road and Highcross Road

Road Name: Dene Walk, Longfield
Extent: From Oakwood Rise for its entire length
Date: 14th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Hartley Road, Main Road and St Marys Way

Road Name: Oakwood Rise, Longfield
Extent: Between Hartley Road and St Marys Way
Date: 14th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Hartley Road, Main Road and St Marys Way

Road Name: St Marys Way, Longfield
Extent: From Main Road for its entire length
Date: 15th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion: Heaverham Road, High Street, St Edith's

Road Name: Milton Road, Greenhithe
Extent: Between Church Road and Craylands Lane
Date: 17th May 2011 for 5 working days

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services, on 0848 247 800
(local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



HIGHWAYS

Diversion:	between 07.00 – 19.00 Craylands Lane, London Road and High Street
Road Name:	Joyce Green Lane, Dartford
Extent:	Between Henderson Drive and Trevithick Drive
Date:	18th May 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Henderson Drive and Trevithick Drive
Road Name:	Rosewood, Wilmington
Extent:	From Birchwood Drive for its entire length
Date:	19th May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Roman Villa Road, Darenth
Extent:	Between Darenth Hill and Holmesdale Hill
Date:	19th May 2011 for 7 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Darenth Hill, Green Street Green Road, St Margaret's Road and Holmesdale Hill
Road Name:	Clement Street, Sutton at Hone
Extent:	Between Arnolds Lane and Goss Hill
Date:	23rd June 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Goss Hill, Barn End Lane, High Road, Church Hill, Hawley Road, Main Road and Arnolds Lane

Gravesham

Road Name:	Waterlow Road, Vigo
Extent:	Between Erskine Road and Harvel Road
Date:	26th April 2011 for 14 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Harvel Road and Erskine Road
Road Name:	Highview, Meopham
Extent:	From Erskine Road for its entire length
Date:	28th April 2011 for 13 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Erskine Road
Road Name:	Evenden Road, Meopham
Extent:	From Huntingfield Road for its entire length
Date:	4th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Hughwoods Close, Higham
Extent:	From Fairview Drive for its entire length
Date:	4th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Fairview Drive, Gravesend
Extent:	From Oak Drive for its entire length
Date:	5th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Beech Grove, Higham
Extent:	Between Taylors Lane and oak Drive
Date:	5th May 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Taylors Lane, School Lane, Villa Road and Norah Lane
Road Name:	Ash Crescent, Higham
Extent:	Between Oak Drive and Beech Grove
Date:	6th May 2011 for 6 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Oak Drive and Beech Grove
Road Name:	Oak Drive, Higham
Extent:	Between Norah Lane and Taylors Lane
Date:	6th May 2011 for 6 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Norah Lane, Villa Road, School Lane and Taylors Lane
Road Name:	Cerne Road, Gravesend
Extent:	Between St Francis Avenue and Cambria Crescent
Date:	9th May 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	St Francis Avenue and Cambria Crescent
Road Name:	Pickwick Gardens, Northfleet
Extent:	Between Dene Holm Road and Masefield Road
Date:	10th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Masefield Road, Painters Ash Lane and Dene Holm Road
Road Name:	Masefield Road, Northfleet
Extent:	Between Painters Ash Lane and Pickwick Gardens
Date:	11th May 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Pickwick Gardens, Dene Holm Road and Painters Ash Lane

Tonbridge & Malling

Road Name:	Swanton Road, West Peckham
Extent:	Between The Hurst and B2016 Sevenmile Lane
Date:	11th May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	The Hurst, Gover Hill, Forge Lane, Mereworth Road, B2016 Sevenmile Lane
Road Name:	Beechin Wood Lane. Plat
Extent:	Between Long Mill Lane and Comp Lane
Date:	13th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Longmill Lane and Comp Lane
Road Name:	A228 Malling Road, Kingshill
Extent:	Between The Street, Mereworth and Gibson Drive
Date:	16th May 2011 for 4 nights between 19.00 – 00.00
Diversion:	A26, B2016 Sevenmile Lane, A20 London

Road Name:	Road, A228 Ashton Way, King Hill
Extent:	Puttenden Road, Shipbourne
Date:	Between Hamptons Road and Claygate Lane 19th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Hamptons Road and Claygate Lane
Road Name:	Parkway, Tonbridge
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	21st May 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Hoggarde Road
Road Name:	Hoggarde Road, Tonbridge
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	21st May 2011 for 7 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Salisbury Road, Norwich Avenue and York Road
Road Name:	Coppthall Road, Ightham
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	24th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Common Road, A26 Sevenoaks Road and Coach Road

Tunbridge Wells

Road Name:	Springhead, Tunbridge Wells
Extent:	Between Ferndale and Ferndale
Date:	22nd May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Ferndale
Road Name:	Betling Road, Tunbridge Wells
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	22nd May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Birling Drive, Tunbridge Wells
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	23rd May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	St Georges Park, Tunbridge Wells
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	24th May 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Brenchley Road / Horsmonden Road, Brenchley
Extent:	Between Church Close and Spout Lane
Date:	25th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Horsmonden Road, B2162 Maidstone Road, Yew Tree Green Road, Crook Road, Windmill Hill and Brenchley Road

Maidstone

Road Name:	Attwater Close, Lenham
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	28th April 2011 for 7 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Tilefields, Hollingbourne
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	28th April 2011 for 7 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	South Green Lane, Stockbury
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	3rd May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	South Lees Lane, Rumstead Road, Rumstead Lane and A249
Road Name:	The Street, Stockbury
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	4th May 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Hill Green Road, Cradles Road, Lower Hartlip Road, Cowstead Lane and Bull Lane
Road Name:	Blind Lane, Detling
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	4th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Fauchiens Close, Bearsted
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	5th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Cambridge Crescent, Shepway
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	5th May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Nottingham Road, Hereford Road and Northumberland Road
Road Name:	Priory Close, East Farleigh
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	6th May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Whitebeam Drive, Coxheath
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	7th May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Pembroke Road, Hanover Road, Cobtree Road and Linden Road
Road Name:	Norton Road, Sutton Valence
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	8th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Warmlake Road, Amber Lane, Wierton Road and B2163 Plough Wents Road

Road Name:	Broomfield Road, Broomfield
Extent:	Between Ashford Road and Gravely Bottom Road
Date:	13th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Longmill Lane and Comp Lane
Road Name:	A228 Malling Road, Kingshill
Extent:	Between The Street, Mereworth and Gibson Drive
Date:	16th May 2011 for 4 nights between 19.00 – 00.00
Diversion:	A26, B2016 Sevenmile Lane, A20 London

Extent 2:	Between Gravely Bottom Road and Chartway Street
Date:	9th May 2011 for 5 working days between 09.30 – 15.30
Diversion 1:	Gravely Bottom Road, Lenham Road, Water Lane, Chegworth Road and A20 Ashford Road.
Diversion 2:	Chartway Street and Gravely Bottom Road.

Road Name:	Busby Grove, Broomfield
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	10th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Chestnut Drive, Ashford Road, Broomfield Road, Gravely Bottom Road and Cayser Drive

Road Name:	Ulcombe Road, Ulcombe
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	10th May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Kings Road, A274 Maidstone Road/ Mill Bank and Tattlebury Road

Road Name:	Lower Road, Sutton Valence
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	17th June 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00

Diversion: High Street and Rectory Lane

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate Carriageway Surfacing Dressing works (Schedule 1) and Carriageway Micro Surfacing works (Schedule 2) to be undertaken by Kent Highway Services.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway**BEACHBOROUGH, NEWINGTON, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of tree surgery works to remove overhanging tree canopy, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Beachborough, Newington, Folkestone or on after 17th April 2011 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the entrance to 'Coombe Farm' and the entrance to 'Little Orchard'. There will be no access for through traffic between Folkestone and Etchinghill. The alternative route is via A20 Ashford Road, M20 between junctions 12 & 13, (non-motorway traffic via B2064 Cheriton High Street, Cheriton Road and Cherry Garden Avenue) A20, A260 Spitfire Way, Canterbury Road, A2 Dover Road, Bonny Bush Hill, Black Robin Lane, Valley Road, Deringstone Hill, Elham Valley Road and Canterbury Road.

The Order will become effective on 17th April 2011 for the dates shown in schedule 1 below, between the hours of 6am to 2pm or until the time stated next to that date. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place for the durations of the events. Access will be maintained at all times as much as is possible.

The alternative route for High Street, West Malling will be via A228 Ashton Way, A20 London Road and Town Hill. The alternative route for Castle Way, Leybourne will be via Oxley Shaw Lane.

The purpose of the Order is to enable the Farmers Market, the Christmas lights switch on and the Royal Wedding street party to take place.

For further information please contact Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

Schedule 1

Sunday 17th April 2011
Sunday 24th April 2011
Friday 29th April 2011 (until 8.00pm)
Sunday 22nd May 2011 (until 5.00pm)
Sunday 26th June 2011
Sunday 24th July 2011
Sunday 28th August 2011
Sunday 25th September 2011
Sunday 23rd October 2011
Sunday 27th November 2011 (until 8.00pm)
Sunday 18th December 2011
Sunday 22nd January 2012
Sunday 26th February 2012
Sunday 25th March 2012

Katherine Kerswell, Group Managing Director
Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone
Kent, ME14 1XQ
Dated 10th April 2011

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800
(local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS – Borough Maidstone
**(EYHORNE STREET, HOLLINGBOURNE)
 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY
 ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
 (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Eyhorne Street, Hollingbourne on or after Monday 11th April 2011 for a period of up to 21 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Eyhorne Street, Upper Street, Hollingbourne Hill, The Street, Bredgar, Primrose Lane, Tunstall, Tunstall Road, Woodstock Road, Bell Road, St Michael Road A2, Dover Street A2, West Street A2 London Road A2 Key Street A2 Bearsted Road A249, Sittingbourne Road A249, Ashford Road A2.

Southern Gas Networks Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to provide a Gas mains re-enforcement. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Keith White on 07770 730572.

**(BROADWATER ROAD,WEST MALLING)
 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY
 ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
 (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Broadwater Road West Malling from the railway approximately 200m north, on or after Wednesday 27th April 2011 for a period of up to 10 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is via Well Street, Stickens Lane, Mill Street, Clare Lane and vice versa.

UK Power Networks apologises for the inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to install a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Steve Bicknell on 07920 150789.

For further information or comment please call Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

**(OXLEY SHAW LANE, LEYBOURNE) (PROHIBITION
 OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS
 AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY
 RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Oxley Shaw Lane, Leybourne between Roundhay and A20 London Road, on or after Monday 11th April 2011 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is via Lillieburn and A228 Castle Way and vice versa.

Kent Highways Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to upgrade the traffic signals at A20 London Road junction with A228 Castle Way. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Ian Brooks on 01622 666212.

For further information or comment please call Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

KATHERINE KERSWELL
 Group Managing Director
 Kent County Council
 County Hall
 Maidstone
 Kent ME14 2XQ

For further information
 please contact Kent Highway
 Services on 08458 247 800
 (local rate) or visit
www.kent.gov.uk/highways



To place your notice here
 call the
Kent Public Notice team
 on
01303 817044

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY**PROW - Borough of Ashford****NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER****HIGHWAYS ACT 1980****THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
 (PUBLIC FOOTPATH AW136 (PART) WESTWELL)****PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2010**

On 03 March 2011 Kent County Council confirmed the above Order under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of that Order as confirmed is to divert the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered AW136 which commences on the eastern side of the drainage ditch at NGR TQ 99493 46850 (Point A) and runs in a east south easterly direction for 66 metres, thence in a south easterly direction for 186 metres, thence in a easterly direction for 154 metres and thence in a north easterly direction for 231 metres to connect with the existing length of AW136, 44 metres from its connection with Tumbledown Hill (NGR TR 00027 469940 (Point B)) to a new length of length of public footpath numbered AW136, with a width of 2 metres, which commences on the eastern side of the drainage ditch at BGR TQ 99493 46850 (Point A) and runs in a easterly direction for 220 metres, where the footpath crosses the access road to Shottenden Manor for a distance of 6 metres, and thence continuing in a easterly direction for 315 metres to rejoin the existing line of AW136 at a point 44 metres from its connection with Tumbledown Hill (NGR TR 00027 469940 (Point B)). As shown on the Order Plan.

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Offices of Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL or at the Environment and Waste Unit at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

The Order comes into force on 31 March 2011, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act which has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may under Paragraph 5 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by Paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the 09 April 2011, make an application to the High Court.

PROW - Borough of Dartford**NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS DS1, DS30 & DS3****IN THE PARISH OF SWANSCOMBE & GREENHITHE**

(Public Footpaths, DS1, DS30 & DS3 in the Parish of Swanscombe & Greenhithe)

(Prohibition Of Traffic) Temporary Order 2011

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Section 14(1), As Amended By The Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991.

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close:

The above notice(s) may be provided in other formats

For further information, please contact
 Kent Countryside Access Service, on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)
 or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess



Dated: 09 April 2011

MARRIAGE LICENSES**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
 THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
 CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
 APPROVED PREMISES FOR
 CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: Hartlip Place, Hartlip, Sittingbourne
 Applicant: Mrs Gillian Yerburgh

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
 Head of Registration
 Regulatory Services
 First Floor, Invicta House
 Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
 THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
 CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
 APPROVED PREMISES FOR
 CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: Ratsbury Barn, Smallhythe Road, Tenterden
 Applicant: Mrs Jane Kirk

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
 Head of Registration
 Regulatory Services
 First Floor, Invicta House
 Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX

**MARRIAGE LICENSES****KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004****APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

An application has been made by Redrays, Biddenden Road, Frittenden, Cranbrook to Kent County Council, to grant an approval for a ceremony at this premise.

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper.

Objections should be sent to the following address
 Giles Adey, Head of Registration,
 Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX.

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
 THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
 CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
 APPROVED PREMISES FOR
 CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Pavilion on the Sands,**
 Harbour Street, Broadstairs
 Mr Francis Thorley

Applicant:
 The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
 Head of Registration
 Regulatory Services
 First Floor, Invicta House
 Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
 THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
 CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
 APPROVED PREMISES FOR
 CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Grangemoor Hotel,**
 St Michaels Road, Maidstone
 Mrs Chantelle Jones

Applicant:
 The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
 Head of Registration
 Regulatory Services
 First Floor, Invicta House
 Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
 THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
 CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
 APPROVED PREMISES FOR
 CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Dover Marina Hotel,**
 The Waterfront, Dover
 David Otteson

Applicant:
 The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
 Head of Registration
 Regulatory Services
 First Floor, Invicta House
 Maidstone, ME14 1XX

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
 THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
 CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
 APPROVED PREMISES FOR
 CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

Applications have been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as venues for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: Best Western Abbots Barton Hotel, 36 New Dover Road, Canterbury

Applicant: Christine Cooper

Name of Premises: Whitstable Castle, Tower Hill, Whitstable
 Applicant: Darren Simpson

The applications and plans of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
 Head of Registration
 Regulatory Services
 First Floor, Invicta House
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Review

FOOD & DRINK

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COVER STORY

Lion whisperer

MILTON JONES HAS
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TV funnyman brings his weird world to the stage



BY ED HILL

MILTON Jones has been praised for his killer one-liners, but stand-up comedy was not his initial choice of career.

"I tried to be an actor years ago and wasn't really getting anywhere – and then I began to do stand-up," he said.

"Once I got through the initial difficulty of getting good at it, I liked that I was in control of what I did. I was not dependent on anyone ringing me. I could just get on and do it."

His acting work faded into the background, but Jones still approached stand-up with the method for playing a part.

He said: "When I was younger, because I was interested in acting, I was inspired by people like Rowan Atkinson and Ronny Barker, rather than stand-up comedians. Then I saw Eddie Izzard and Harry Enfield and could see there was a different way of doing it. They blended the jokes in with the character."

But for an actor, breaking the usual barrier between the audience and the stage was a difficult skill to learn.

"The thing about live comedy is that it is interactive, and there is direct communication with an audience. That is hard to get used to," said Jones.

"If someone shouts something from the crowd you have to deal with it. At first I would go into rough places as a middle-class guy and say smart things, and it wouldn't really go down very well."

"It wasn't until I thought of my act as a character that it really began to make sense. I began to look at it through his world. My comedy was weird observations and I found that if I went on looking a bit weird it broke down those barriers, and was less threatening for a crowd."

Testosterone

Recently, Jones's profile has been raised after his appearances on BBC2's *Mock The Week*, which revolves around the news headlines, but at first he was not sure if his comedy would fit in with the topical show.

He said: "I didn't think it would be ideal for me because it is a rather testosterone-filled environment, but I think it works because I bring a different angle to it."

"It is a mistake to try to do what other people are doing and, to be honest, that isn't really why they have booked me. I know I am probably not going to be as good at that sort of newsworthy stuff as other people on the show."

"The main problem with *Mock The Week* is getting a word in because there are seven other people who all have an opinion. If you don't get in what you want to say quickly, then someone will probably get there before you."

"Luckily, because I do one-liners I can get them in and hopefully they will stick in people's heads."

And Jones's weird world, which has also led to eight series on Radio 4, has a broad appeal that can take in a family crowd.

He said: "I enjoy looking out into the theatre and seeing a range of ages. I don't talk about politics or sport – it's wider observational stuff but in a quirky form."

Inventing one-liners is a constant mission, and appearing on television means the strug-

Milton Jones gets in character for show



QUIRKY: Milton Jones believes adopting a persona helps the audience get involved

gle for new jokes becomes even more intense.

Jones said: "Unlike musicians, fans do not want to hear your old jokes – they want to hear something new. I just end up looking for stuff all the time. You always have to move forward. It is the oxygen that keeps you going."

The live show will not disappoint those who only know Jones through the television show.

He said: "It is similar, because there are a lot of quick jokes, but it is split up with music, characters and I also use an overhead projector. The slant of the jokes is more wide-ranging

and I can use things like cartoons to bring a bit of variety. There will also be a lot more interaction with the audience as well."

"People may not expect that, but I have been doing stand-up for a long time. It is the bit I enjoy the most. I have my jokes and I know they will work, but the best bits are when I leave those and go on to something else and it is special for the audience on that night."

"I also enjoy performing live because I can develop longer jokes or running gags without being interrupted by another panellist."

As for the title of his latest tour, the comic says fans should not read too much into it.

He said: "The promoters phoned me up on the day they were printing the posters. I looked on a pad that I had with me at the time and they were the two words that I had written down. They just seemed appropriate."

• **Milton Jones – Lion Whisperer** will be at the Leas Cliff Hall in Folkestone on Wednesday, April 13. For tickets and more information, visit www.leascliffhall.org.uk.

ATTRACTI0NS

EVENTS

Vincee Power presents the 4th

HOP FARM

MUSIC FESTIVAL 2011

FRI 1 JUL SAT 2 JUL

EAGLES **MORRISSEY**
BRYAN FERRY **LOU REED**
BRANDON FLOWERS **IGGY & THE STOOGES**
DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE **PATTI SMITH**
10cc **CHRISSEY HYNDE WITH JP JONES**
JIMMY BARNES **NEWTON FAULKNER**
CITY & COLOUR **BROTHER • DAMIEN DEMPSEY**
TRANSFER **MARY COUGHLAN**

THE HUMAN LEAGUE **MANU CHAO LA VENTURA**
OCEAN COLOUR SCENE **NOISSETTES**

THE WALKMEN **GANG OF FOUR • GRAHAM COXON**
THE DUKE SPIRIT **TIM BOOTH • THE BLUETONES**
KITTY DAISY & LEWIS **FRANKIE & THE HEARTSTRINGS**
THE SECRET SISTERS **THE PARIS RIOTS**

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Golden egg at end of national treasure hunt

HUNDREDS of families will take part in egg hunts over the Easter holidays, but only one person will be lucky enough to claim the prize of a Golden Egg worth £2,000.

To celebrate the UK release of new animated film HOP, English Heritage and Universal Pictures have joined up to present the ultimate nationwide Easter-egg hunt.

A total of 27 English Heritage properties – including Walmer Castle and gardens and the home of Charles Darwin, Down House near Bromley – will host Easter Family Fun Trails from April 16-25.

However, these traditional Easter-egg hunts will have an added twist – participants who find the elusive Easter Bunny at each site will get to take part in a competition to win a Golden Egg, courtesy of HOP.

Blending state-of-the-art animation and live action, HOP tells the story of Fred, played by James Marsden, an out-of-work slacker who accidentally injures E.B., the teenage son of the Easter Bunny, voiced by Russell Brand, and must take him in as he recovers.



Traditional family fun in the garden

MAY Day will be going with a swing at Godinton House and Gardens as the accent falls very much on tradition.

A maypole and Morris dancers will decorate the gardens on Wednesday, May 2, and local artisans will perform demonstrations of their work, whilst falconry displays will give visitors the chance to learn more about hawks.

Locally-produced delicacies will be on offer in the barn, including goods from Challock Farmers Market, such as spicy treats from Temple Foods and a range of produce from the Challock Chutney Co among other local vendors.

Children can enter the May Day costume competition by dressing up as a May Queen or Jack in the Green and have the chance to get creative with a variety of crafts. Traditional games such as pin the tail, horseshoes and bat and trap will add to the classic feel of the day.

Food will be on offer throughout the afternoon with a barbecue and other refreshments supplied in the cart shed. The tea room will serve cakes when the house opens.

The gardens and event open at 12pm. Godinton House opens at 2pm. Admission for the event and garden costs: £5 for adults; £2 for children.

Castle plays host to historic horrors

A HIDEOUS cast of mucky characters will descend on Dover Castle on the weekend of April 16-17 to offer up a light-hearted look at crime and grime from the past.

From facing the executioner's block to catching deadly bubonic plague, life would have been a hazardous affair and from 10am-5pm each day brave visitors can travel back in time to witness the horror.

Accompanied by live leeches, a medieval and an 18th-century surgeon will use some of the barbaric equipment of the time to amputate, cauterise, remove arrows, pull teeth and operate.

By royal appointment, Queen Victoria's ratcatcher, Jack Black, will reveal how he worked to keep the streets clear of vermin with deadly poisons, lures and ratpits, and a Victorian 'tosher' – effectively a toilet-cleaner – will give visitors the chance to sift through sewage in search of artefacts.



Overseeing proceedings will be the executioner, ready to chop off the head of any unruly visitors, and youngsters can get their face painted with the pox.

This look at the grim side of history is aimed at all ages. Normal admission prices apply, plus £1 per participating child (including EH members): adults £13.90, concessions £11.80, children £7, family ticket £34.80.

For more on Dover Castle, visit www.english-heritage.org.uk.

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Dogán brings his heritage to music

AS part of the Equator World Music Festival, Dogan Mehmet And The Deerhunters will be offering a unique mix of Turkish and English folk-music styles.

Dogan is a second-generation Turkish Cypriot and his heritage forms a big part of his musical identity, alongside his love for English traditional music and the rich cultural heritage.

He is a hugely dynamic front man, exceptional vocalist and talented multi-instrumentalist mixing jazz, funk, soul and indie-rock styles into his music.

Dogan Mehmet And The Deer Hunters have an increasing reputation as one of the most original and exciting live acts to come out of the folk scene in recent years – they come highly recommended.

The band are working on their new album due for release this spring.

The concert takes place at the Norton Knatchbull School, in Hythe Road, Ashford, at 7.30pm on Friday, April 15.

Tickets: adults £8, concessions £5, students £3, children free.

For more information on the band, visit www.doganhmehmet.com. For details about this year's Equator Music Festival, visit www.equatorfestival.com.

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Café date for guitar duo

JAMIE Moore and Dave Reay will make a welcome return to the Belgian Café in Ramsgate this month.

The duo's guitar performances span Latin, swing, gypsy and acoustic styles, and they impressed audiences when they played the venue in December.

Canadian-born Moore's evocative lyrics mix with his flamenco guitar as he adds vitality to jazz favourites.

After recording two original albums and

making a national tour of his homeland, Moore held residencies in several West End hotels and now lives in Thanet.

David Reay, a regular at Broadstairs Folk Festival, favours Bebop styles and has completed a national tour in addition to recording three jazz-folk albums with his wife, Gay.

The pair will combine acoustic melodies with smooth jazz for the free-entry event, on Friday, April 15. It starts at 8.30pm. Visit www.belgiancafe.co.uk for details.

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City offers best

THE ancient city of Canterbury is rightly revered for its cathedral, its city walls, its abbey and the many other historic places of interest, which attract huge numbers of tourists every year.

But the city which has so much history is also a thriving modern-day metropolis, with a vast array of stores, bars, pubs, restaurants and cafés.

Some are atmospheric and reflect bygone days, while others are state of the art and cater to those looking for a true 21st-century experience.

But they all have one thing in common – they truly belong in a place which prides itself on class and style.

For those who have a yearning for retail, Canterbury has it all.

Its array of shop windows beckon with a kaleidoscope of colours, inviting you to sample what's on offer.

Many of the high-street names are here, as well as a delightful range of independent retailers.

The King's Mile has an atmosphere all of its own, while the city's St Dunstan's, West Gate Towers and Northgate areas have a range of specialist and individual outlets.

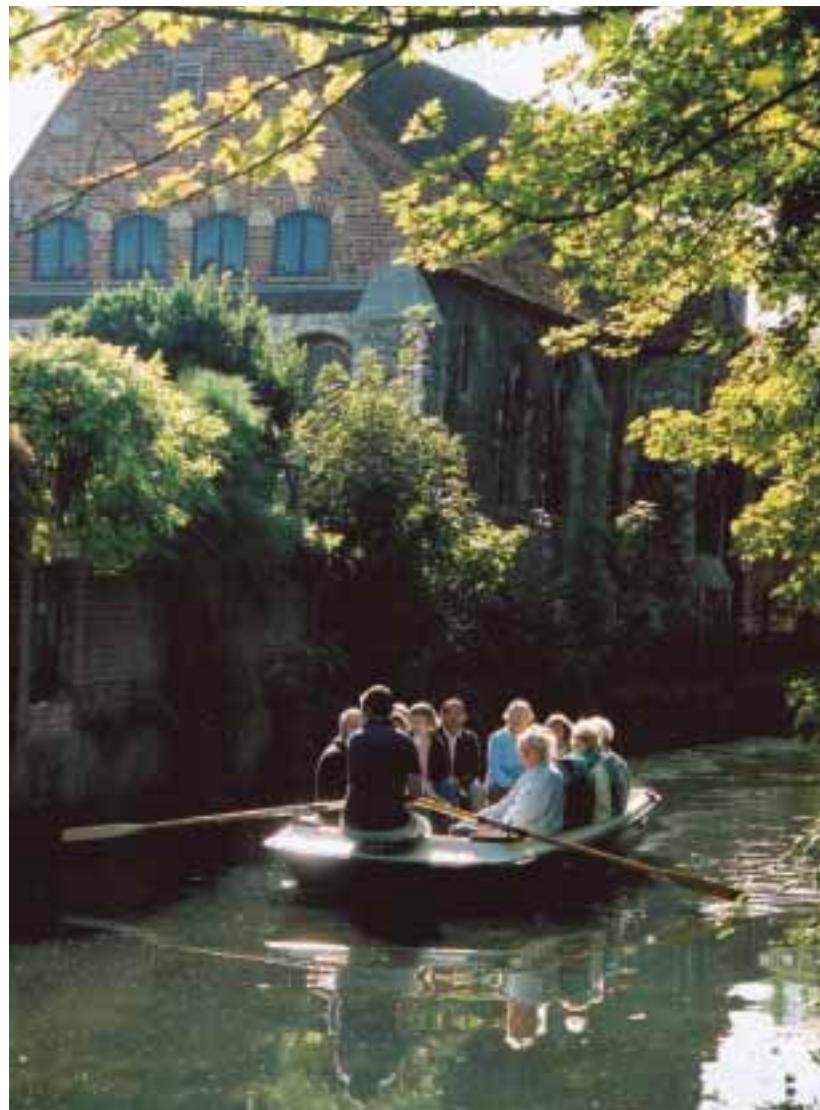
The town is famous for its bookstores, with Waterstones boasting two branches, while tucked away in more obscure corners is an excellent range of second-hand stores with bargains and collectors' editions piled from floor to roof.

Canterbury's large student population means music is also well catered for, with a large HMV store on two floors and, for those with a taste for old vinyl, a second-hand store on the Whitstable road.

Fashion stores abound, with a great variety in the Whitefriars shopping centre, which shows how stylish modern-day architecture can blend seamlessly with treasured buildings from the past.

Sometimes malls and shopping centres are the best for purchases, but visitors should be aware that there are many opportunities in the city to check out the smaller, independent, retailer.

To accessorise a glamorous look, Fitzgerald Jewellers, which opened in 2002 and is owned by a family of jewellers and clockmakers who have been in the trade since the 1700s, is a must-visit.



Stockist of Pandora and Marco Bicego brands, diamond rings and wedding rings, it has won an award for excellent customer service and staff are willing to assist on

purchases by sharing their expert knowledge.

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Another top local retailer, In-toto Kitchens, has entered its sixth year of business, and 2010 was its most successful year so far.

Having recently installed displays showcasing the best in German kitchens, the team hopes to build on last year's success with high-quality products and superb customer care.

After shopping or sightseeing, relax in The

White Hart, an undiscovered gem, outside the bustling city centre but within the medieval walls. It feels like a village pub, with a wide range of beers and excellent food.

Sitting in the tranquil garden or cosy bar, it is hard to believe that one of the UK's top cultural and retail destinations lies just a few minutes' walk away.

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Oysters are the dish of the day

RESTAURANT REVIEW

BY NICK AMES

OYSTERS have been caught off the coast of Whitstable since Roman times and the town is synonymous with the seafood delicacy.

The Kentish shellfish were so popular with the high society of ancient Rome that shells 2,000 years old have been discovered in modern-day Italy.

The town stages an annual oyster festival to celebrate the catch and the prosperity it brings; there are related displays in the local museum; and various buildings and boats along the shoreline all have connections with oysters.

The shells themselves are piled up on the shingle most days of the year as well.

The harbour in the town was the first to be connected to a railway network – nicknamed the Crab and Winkle Railway, which was a play on the initials of its official name of the Canterbury and Whitstable Railway. Its main function was to transport the fruits of the sea.

A remaining original Whitstable oyster boat, or smack, called The Gamecock is kept at

Conyer, near Faversham, while others are still working off the coast of Scotland and in the Bahamas.

But one institution possibly symbolises the town's relationship with its favourite seafood most effectively of all.

Wheelers Oyster Bar in the high street, with its photogenic pink facade, has become famous throughout the culinary world for its menu.

Established in 1856, it has won numerous accolades, including a Le Routiers, and even published its own cookbook.

Published in 2003, The Oyster Seekers was recipient of the Best UK Fish and Seafood Book title at the Gourmand World awards.

With a shop in the front, the restaurant area itself is extremely small and seats just 12 people. Booking is definitely advisable.

When my dining companion and I visited, every table was occupied.

Seasonal

The idea behind Wheelers – which has no alcohol licence but at no extra charge allows diners to bring their own wine – is quite a simple one, but extremely effective.

The menu is seasonal and selected so that the freshest and most locally-sourced produce can be served up – even using fish which has been brought ashore after a single day's fishing trip rather than two weeks at sea.

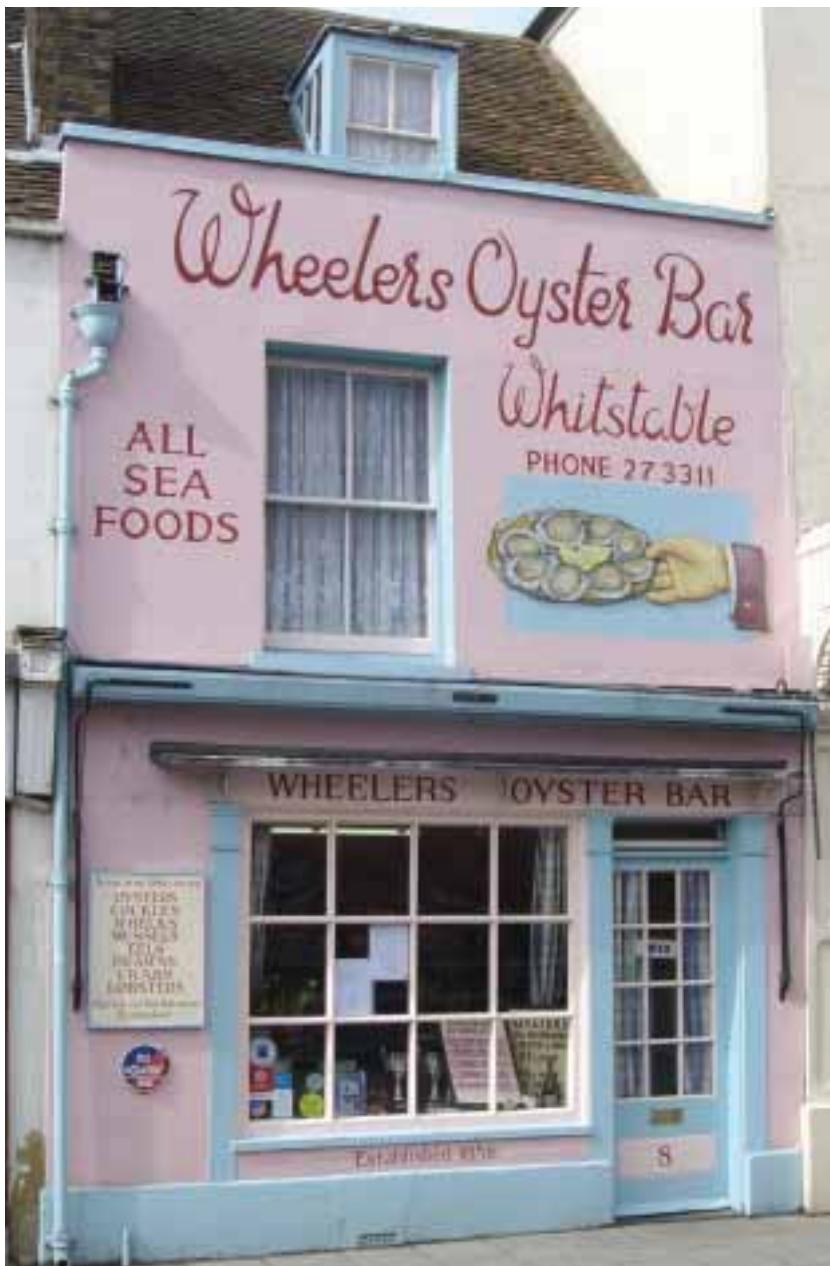
In a climate in which food miles are considered important and huge emphasis is placed on eating locally-farmed, -grown or -caught produce, this is a definite plus.

We started off with half-a-dozen oysters (£4.40) served with a slice of lemon – these went down very easily.

My friend chose as a starter a risotto of natural smoked coley finished with baby spinach, soft egg-yolk and Parmesan (£6.90). She pronounced it delicious – as was my choice of pan-fried crab cake with a sweet chilli ecrevisse and a warm brie, rocket and walnut salad (£7.80).

The portions were also the right size, with enough on the plate to act as excellent appetisers but not so large as to spoil the delights still to come.

My guest opted for herb-crusted halibut, which came with roast baby artichokes, shallot and thyme puree, buttered spinach leaves, trumpet mushrooms and fondant potato (£20).



I chose pot-roast sea bass with white crab and coriander-crushed potatoes, four large tiger prawns and sweet-pea veloute (£19.50).

Both main dishes were cooked to perfection and artistically plated, with attentive staff ready to answer questions about how they had been prepared.

While the dining area is small, tables are arranged extremely well, with enough space to ensure diners are not crowded together.

Whitstable has a reputation of a place popular with tourists and daytrippers, and Wheelers is surely one of the reasons for

this. It's a proper hidden delight of a dining venue with excellent food served in quirky but charming surroundings.

While the food is not exactly cheap, it is probably worth remembering that accompanied with wine bought at shop prices the overall cost of any meal is competitive for a top-class establishment.

Our bill came to £58.60 – and I paid £7.95 for a bottle of Pinot Grigio from the off-licence across the road.

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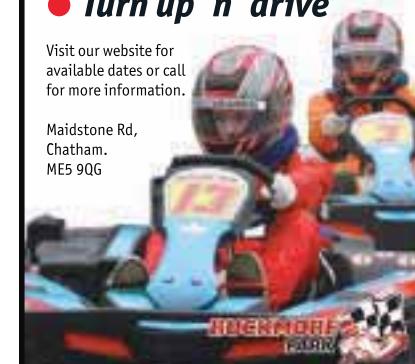


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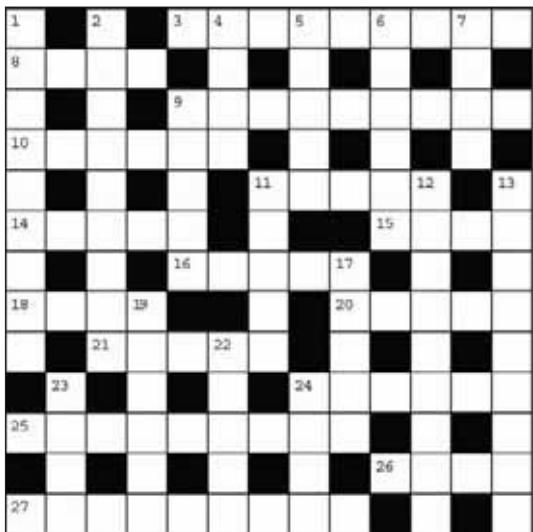
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CRYPTIC CLUES**Across**

3. Very hot, as arranged, but too quick (9)
8. Somehow reap the fruit (4)
9. Annoying and looking around the street (9)
10. Our previously old-fashioned grief (6)
11. A service returns to Indian state (5)
14. Was about to come in with goods (5)
15. Pleasant resort (4)
16. Cathy capsizes the boat (5)
18. Step to the right with a gun-runner (4)
20. Shore up the animal (5)
21. Girl loses her head over slang (5)
24. Some Dorset terrier or another dog (6)
25. Cane under trial for lasting ability (9)
26. Proceed to find the fool (4)
27. Plan to dig around for something with which to gild a lily (4,5)

SCRIBBLE HERE**Down**

1. Digging done by one in a suit (9)
2. Ran libel article about a dancer (9)
4. Ever out to go off course (4)
5. Duty lists for cooking the roast (5)
6. Pilot has to arm Ian somehow (6)
7. Vehicle with a worn top (4)
9. Cat got into a rumpus systematically (5)
11. Coats thrown at the races (5)
12. Turns into a grim journey (9)
13. Tree trend can be off-putting (9)
17. There's an odd number (5)
19. You give it when retreating (6)
22. Love a bad actor to return to an American city (5)
23. Cause the downfall of the United Nations party (4)
24. Read the descendant part (4)

QUICK CLUES**Across**

3. Assign (9)
8. Frolic (4)
9. Primness (9)
10. At sea (6)
11. Seraglio (5)
14. Mortal (5)
15. Stable (4)
16. Faith (5)
18. Peel (4)
20. Surmise (5)
21. Vex (5)
24. Gap (6)
25. Mechanical (9)
26. Worry (4)
27. Willingness (9)

Down

1. Treason (9)
2. Salary (9)
4. Jog (4)
5. Dance (5)
6. Credo (6)
7. Carry (4)
9. Swoon (5)
11. Dwelling (5)
12. Tiny (9)
13. Vast size (9)
17. Poisonous (5)
19. Destitute (6)
22. Fish-eggs (5)
23. Dumb (4)
24. Sibilate (4)

CRYPTIC SOLUTIONS 433: Across: 1 Barn; 3 Absentees; 8 Bombs; 9 Bristles; 11 Double bridle; 13 Lesson; 14 Gravel; 17 Good gracious; 20 Packages; 21 Fete; 22 Scarecrow; 23 Stale Down; 4 Scrubs; 5 East Africa; 6 Thread; 7 So-so; 10 Almond cake; 12 Bluster; 13 Violin; 16 Trust; 18 Greece; 19 Osca; 20 Optic; 21 Tease; 24 Hauls; 25 Automatic; 26 Pretzel; 27 Readiness; Down: 1 Treacher; 11 Harriet; 12 Bluster; 13 Minimality; 15 Trot; 16 Blame; 17 Hause; 18 Minimality; 19 Tote; 22 Devotion; 23 Mixture; 24 His.

The winner of last week's crossword, no 433, is M Fitchett, of Faversham





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FAYE N/S, non drinker, lots of love to give, seeks special, genuine, honest male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349309

PATRICIA outgoing, confident, feminine, warm, friendly, smart, good company, attractive, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347215

64YR old female, 5ft 2ins, GSOH, likes golf, seeks male with GSOH for friendship, days out, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 339581

FEMALE 25, professional, likes nights out, socialising, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360961

ORIENTAL female, 27, seeks older gent, 65 plus to take care of me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362207

BEAUTIFUL slim, sexy female, 22, seeks older gent, 65 plus to take care of me. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362201

PRETTY woman, slim, black, widow, 39, energetic, seeks white, solvent male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360695

CURVY sophisticated Irish lady, 36, new to the area and lonely. WLTM male up to 69yrs for companionship, cosy nights in/out. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361379

KAREN tall slim feminine, 40, WLTM genuine male who will keep me warm and cosy up for romantic nights in/out. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361357

42YR old female, likes music, dancing, writing, astrology, cats, seeks male with GSOH and similar age. Medway. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351577

CARING young 62 petite blonde, seeks someone to share doing things with, theatre, dancing and perhaps nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359761

LONELY female, petite, attractive, size 8-10, blue eyes, long hair, likes historic places, holidays, meals out, seeks honest, genuine male for friendship initially. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356359

TINKERBELL sees Peter Pan, I'm 36, 5ft 3ins, size 8-10 and am looking for a tall strong man who can connect and make me laugh. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 358721

SUZANNE 35, beautiful blonde, seeks discreet male for chats and a relaxing glass of wine anytime. ACA, status unimportant. City area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342527

KATHY long blonde hair, blue eyes, 60, likes mowtown music, nights in/out, seeks gent, 47-62. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361797

BARBARA 46, seeks nice, stocky male up to 50 for friendship, maybe more. Heathrow. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361701

SALLY independent, intelligent, confident, caring female, seeking a similar soul mate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361575

MANDY early 40's, slightly alternative, looking for similar open minded male for fun nights in/out. Can accommodate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361727

YOUNG 40's lady who loves cooking and enjoying good wine, WLTM older male for cosy nights in and great company. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359163

HONEST caring, genuine female, 44, GSOH, likes meals out, nights in, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381844

MARY 62, 5ft 3ins, medium build, blonde, blue eyes, likes nights in/out, seeks honest male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359467

SALLY petite, confident lady, happy go lucky, likes dancing, walks, tv, seeks male/soul mate for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383676

PROFESSIONAL 50, slim blonde, green eyes, petite, solvent, OHAC, looking for good adult companionship with likeminded male. Any/Status. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362951

ATTRACTIVE slim well educated spontaneous blonde, 36, fed up with being alone WLTM keen tactile man who is up for a challenge, Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362887

NEW to area, happy female with no ties and easy to please, looking for genuine manly man for friendship, dates and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362885

LOOKING for relaxation and fun? Attractive 49yr old nurse waiting to raise the temperature of broad-minded, fun companion! Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360923

28YR old slim blonde female, varied interests, looking for uncomplicated friendship with open minded man. Status/looks/Age unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362865

BLONDE blue eyed single female, 34, discreet, OHAC, looking for full friendship with confident man, 38-40 wanting fun times also. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362863

ELIZABETH caring, honest, reliable, likes most things, seeks older gent, late 70's for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359589

PETITE female, slim, attractive, blonde hair, green eyes, GSOH, romantic, likes sports, nights out, meals, seeks honest, genuine, N/S male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334613

DOROTHY 70's, 5ft, fair hair, likes coast, Chinese food, seeks male for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342451

JENNY 5ft 4ins, black hair, green eyes, size 12-14, likes cinema, nights out, dancing, gardening, walks, holidays, seeks tall, slim male, 40's for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 339065

ELSIE 5ft 8ins, 70's, OHAC, N/S, likes pub lunches, walks, seeks gent for company, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348425

ATTRACTIVE slim single mum, 44, seeks similar tall male, 40-50, caring, loving and loyal, are you? Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334393

VICKY attractive, kind, down to earth, black British, likes travel, writing, reading, cooking, socialising, seeks generous, good man who is family orientated. Essex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353033

BABE seeks mature white male for discreet fun, you won't be sorry I know how to treat my man. Any area London Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359997

MARY 62, 5ft 3ins, medium build, blonde, blue eyes, likes skin, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359467

CHARLIE 40, blue eyed, dark skin, long legs, voluptuous, likes sea side, walks, DIY, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346907

ATTRACTIVE slim, easygoing, lady, 30's, likes travel, nights in, seeks genuine, solvent white male, 36-48 for no strings relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346955

MARTIN from Medway please call Barbara, you left message but line said no incoming calls, please try again. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346699

SARAH 37, caring, kind, seeks fun, caring guy, 37-49. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346319

JANE 76, 5ft 2ins, petite, likes painting, countryside, meals out, seeks genuine gent with similar interests for companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338321

LISA 42, medium build, likes cooking, walks, music, days in/out, WLTM caring, down to earth male, 40-50. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332817

FEMALE 29, HIV, likes cinema, countryside, cosy nights in, seeks good male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 37327

JANET 52, kind, caring, honest, loving, likes cinema, nights in, meals out, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361351

BUBBLY outgoing nurse, (I love my uniform), fancy meeting up North London for some fun loving fun Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356983

ATTRACTIVE lady, curly and fun, looking for an uncomplicated fully discrete relationship, after work etc, any area London. Discretion assured and expected Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356991

BEAUTIFUL slim, black female, HIV positive, good qualities, seeks genuine, kind, white male, 30-47 to share life with. Cambridge/London/Tunbridge Wells. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346745

KAREN 34, sexy leggy brunette who knows there's more to life than just work! WLTM confident professional male for time off meets in London and fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342525

FUN loving country girl, 48, seeks male for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384488

FEMALE seeks N/S, clean, tidy white male, 42-50 for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361049

CRYSTAL 5ft 6ins, long dark hair, hazel eyes, olive skin, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383374

49YR old lady, honest, sincere, easygoing, likes a laugh, looking for love. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359059

ATTRACTIVE caring, interesting black lady, seeks educated, genuine, white male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 358937

GILL young 70, 5ft 2ins, blue eyes, likes days out, meals out, nights in, animals, happy go lucky, seeks similar male with a car. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342055

ELEGANT professional, black, lady, 5ft 3ins, medium build, likes dancing, meals out, cinema, reading, seeks intelligent, professional guy for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353840

CHARLIE 40, blue eyed, dark skin, long legs, voluptuous, likes sea side, walks, DIY, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 340019

WANTED dates & mates! Kim 53, straight, seeks people for socialising, drinking, holidays etc. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353897

CLARE 31, likes swimming, gym, socialising, meals out, sightseeing, seeks male. Ramsgate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353243

POLITE bubbly female, GSoh, seeks gent for caring friend, likes nights in and socialising. Dartford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382666

ATTRACTIVE black lady, 5ft 6ins, black hair, slim, kissable lips, likes walks, horse riding, go karts, seeks professional white male, 35-45, athletic, 5ft 11ins-6ft. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382502

WOULDNT it be nice? Cheerful female, late 60's, dog owner, likes gardening, walks, conversation, laughter, seeks similar. Redhill Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337601

JO tall, blonde, blue eyes, sexy figure, seeks male for fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347421

ANNE young 62, fair hair, green eyes, seeks genuine male, 62-65 who is interested in the simple things in life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 357819

FIT lady, 65, thinks she's 40, N/S, loves life, seeks genuine gent, 60-70 N/S for happy loving, exciting times. Gravesend. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350311

Alice 47, black, seeks older male for love and relationship. Redhill Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353111

GENUINE loving female, 40, seeks loving male, 40-50 for friendship and LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346192

WORLD traveller, fit, young minded female, enjoys life, seeks special interesting male, 60's for genuine relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349053

LOVELY 55yr old female, medium build, blonde, likes four legged fury friends, scary movies, sees N/S, understanding, caring, loving male, 50-60. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361445

DAISY sexy, voluptuous, leggy, blonde, seeks male, 76 plus who knows how to treat a lady. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348889

GERALDINE seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 321449

LOVING 38yr old female, honest, romantic, loving, caring, likes swimming, meals out, nights in, seeks male, 45-55 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350775

BEDFORDSHIRE female, 39, HIV positive, likes cinema, music, travel, nights in, wine bars, seeks decent, white, professional male, under 45. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 358579

BARBARA divorced, active, 5ft 7ins, dark hair/eyes, likes cinema, theatre, meals out, holidays, seeks intelligent mate with GSoh for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346745

GLADYS sensual, loving, short hair, likes cooking, seeks Christian gent with no ties for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362291

RECENT widow, 60, 5ft 9ins, medium build, N/S, seeks slim, attractive female to share the nice things in life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362999

MALE 52, 6ft, well built, seeks female for wineing, dining and fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362315

DECENT looking male, 38, like pubs, music, restaurants, night in/out, seeks female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361771

PROFESSIONAL male, 58, honest, reliable, fun, likes sports, travel, seeks attractive female for possible LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360777

SINGLE professional, good looking Indian male, 5ft 7ins, vegetarian, 51, young looks, seek younger white female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362927

ATTRACTIONATE male, 41, seeks slim, attractive friend, likes cooking, walks, music, film for etc for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362315

ASHFORD lady sought by gentle, loyal male, likes music for fun times, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362249

RECENT widow, 60, 5ft 9ins, medium build, N/S, seeks slim, attractive female to share the nice things in life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362291

MALE 52, seeks attractive, fun, outgoing female, 45-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384770

ASHFORD lady sought by gentle, loyal male, likes music for fun times, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362249

PROFESSIONAL male, 41, seeks slim, attractive friend, likes cooking, walks, music, film for etc for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362315

GAY non scene student, Tim, mi 20's, seeks older retired gent, 7: plus for beautiful friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363999

GOOD natured friendly male, 45 young looks, seeks male, 35-55 likes nights in, holidays for friend ship/LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363663

JUST turned 50y old male, N/S, seeks bi/gay guy to go cycling with in the local area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363633



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ANNE young 50, likes cuddles, nights in/out, seeks male, 37-47 for LTR. Erith. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382644

YOUNG at heart 50's tall, slim, blue eyed blonde, honest, caring, seeks male for fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347421

DENISE young 50, likes cuddles, nights in/out, seeks male, 37-47 for LTR. Erith. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382644

MALE 5ft 5ins, young 60's, dar hair, caring, likes travel, country side, seeks slim-medium build attractive soul mate for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362039

JOHN 42, 6ft, divorced, no ties brown hair, blue eyes, likes cooking, camping, holidays, seek female with GSoh with similar interest for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361999

JOHN 52, 5ft 2ins, medium build shaven head, blue eyes, seek female of similar age with GSoh for fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362445

MALE 41, seeks slim, attractive friend, likes cooking, walks, music, film for etc for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362315

TALL dark, professional male, 5ft 4ins, seeks similar female for friendship, nights in/out and fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362315

DECENT looking male, 38, like pubs, music, restaurants, night in/out, seeks female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361771

PROFESSIONAL male, 58, honest, reliable, fun, likes sports, travel, seeks attractive female for possible LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360777

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INCREASE IN SALES: The number of properties sold for more than £1 million increased by 3 per cent over the year from December 2009

The market is coming back to life this spring

By NICK AMES

ACTIVITY in the residential property market in the UK has increased following the winter slowdown, with buyer demand on the up, especially where quality homes are available, it is claimed.

The latest quarterly review from Winkworth, a leading franchisor of real-estate agencies, says registrations increased 90 per cent between December and January and property stock levels have been boosted by an injection of new properties in January and February.

The South East is one area to particularly benefit, with the more metropolitan areas seeing the most benefit.

But there is also a concerted drive from families to move out of the capital and into rural surroundings.

The study also found that more rental properties are coming on to the market as landlords grow their portfolios to take advantage

of strong demand. Rents are still rising and average rent across the UK now stands at £2,126 per month.

The overall outlook for the sales market in 2011 remains uncertain, but prime areas and large family homes will continue to see price growth as demand outstrips supply, the report concluded.

"The family house market continues to drive activity. As ever, there is movement out of London as couples with growing families look for more space and open countryside, so long as the capital remains within easy commuting reach for work."

"Our newly-created country house department, which caters for this sector of demand, is proving to be an asset to our customers and is experiencing brisk activity," said Dominic Agace, chief executive officer of Winkworth.

"First-time buyers are, unfortunately, still struggling to get a foothold on the property

ladder as high levels of deposits continue to penalise them. Until there are signs of sustained economic recovery, the banks are likely to continue to squeeze this end of the market."

The most up-to-date figures available show that during December 2010 the number of completed house sales in England and Wales dropped by 30 per cent to 54,812 from 78,438 in December 2009.

However, the number of properties sold in England and Wales for more than £1 million increased by 3 per cent between December 2009 and December 2010, from 522 to 540.

"Flat lending and the continuing economic uncertainty led the average property price to dip significantly in February."

"Following the Budget, it's clear that the Government is desperate to stimulate lending, especially to bring more first-time buyers to the market, but it isn't providing the solid economic evidence required," said Paul Hunt, managing director of Phoebus Software.



Head-office development looks out over beauty

WARD Homes staff took the opportunity to both reminisce and celebrate as they opened a new-homes development off Ash Tree Lane in Chatham – which had been the site of the company offices for more than 35 years.

The site has been transformed into 55 new homes, named Capstone Heights.

Opened by Geoff Juby, leader of the Liberal Democrat group at Medway Council, the ribbon-cutting was also attended by some of the staff who used to work at the Chatham office.

Ward Homes relocated to its current office near Sevenoaks in 2007 as the housebuilder expanded its operations throughout Kent.

Nick Fenton, managing director for Ward Homes, said: "We are thrilled to be reopening Capstone Heights as a delightful range of new homes.

"The completely-transformed site, which was previously our Kent headquarters, was a place of work enjoyed by many of our staff as it offers the most fantastic views across the Medway countryside.

"I'm sure many homebuyers will now benefit from these views for years to come."

Cllr Juby said: "I was very pleased to be able to officially open the development for Ward Homes, which was once the site of its former offices.

"The new homes at Capstone Heights look very impressive and will offer residents wonderful views of the neighbouring area."

Ward Homes sold three properties on the launch day, with prices starting at £109,995 for a one-bedroom apartment.

Mr Fenton said: "We were delighted to have sold three properties on the first day and expect the remaining properties to be just as popular. I would advise those interested in securing one of the remaining properties to contact us to find out more."

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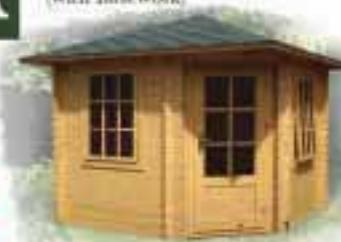
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Peugeot launch big assault on D-sector

By **SAM DAVISON**

PEUGEOT launches a potent new upmarket contender this month in the family car or D-sector of the UK car market.

Formerly known as the 'Mondeo' sector due to the ubiquitous Ford, it has since become a fierce battleground where German premium models fare just as well as those from mainstream marques.

The fact is, company car sales still dominate volumes here and 'user choosers' want premium models like the BMW 3-Series and Audi A4.

Such upmarket cars also sell better on the used market after their three years or so on company service, which means less depreciation and lower overall running costs.

It was an equation that didn't add up for Peugeot's outgoing model in this arena, the 507: it wasn't a great drive, didn't look too sharp despite some brave styling and the huge gaping maw of a grille dated quickly. In short, it depreciated badly.



However, these weaknesses seem to have been addressed by its successor, the 508 saloon and SW (sporting estate), which oozes quality and has chic styling based on the French marque's much lauded SR1 Concept Car.

The interior of the 508 combines hi-tech with the use of high quality materials and every detail has been chosen to offer indisputable perceived quality, both visually

and to the touch – an area where Peugeot has really raised the stakes in a few short years, notably with the middleweight 308 and 308CC, the 3008 crossover and the 5008 people carrier.

Peugeot also claims exceptional interior space, a generous boot, and a range of powertrains that lower CO₂ and optimise fuel efficiency, while enhancing performance and driveability.



Stop-start technology is also available to cut emissions and consumption and there will be a diesel hybrid model in due course.

Priced from £18,150, the 508 range will also include a GT version with different front suspension for keen drivers.



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2010(60) VAUXHALL MERIVA SE COTI TO MPV AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles.....	£16,995
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2010(60) VAUXHALL ASTRA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles.....	£14,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL ASTRA SRI 5DR HATCH AUTO, STAR SILVER, 1900 miles.....	£13,995
2010(60) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS 160 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, MOUNTAIN GREY, 1610 miles.....	£13,995
2010(60) VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG 5DR HATCH AUTO, NIMBUS GREY, 999 miles.....	£12,995
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2010(60) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, RED, 600 miles.....	£11,995
2010(60) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 300 miles.....	£11,995
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2009(09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£10,995
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2010(10) FIAT PUNTO EVO DYNAMIC DUALOGIC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 500 miles.....	£9,495
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2010(10) FORD FUSION ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1800 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08) FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles.....	£7,995

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2000(X) CITROEN SAXO SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 50000 miles.....	£2,495
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2009(09) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 18V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 750 miles.....	£9,495
2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 18V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles.....	£9,495
2008(08) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 18V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ULTRA BLUE, 4000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles.....	£9,995
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2008(08) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles.....	£7,995
2005(54) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles.....	£5,495

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2008(08) MAZDA 5 1.8 TS2 MPV AUTO, GOLD, 15000 miles.....	£9,995
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2006(56) MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 21000 miles.....	£7,495
2007(57) MAZDA 2 2 CAPELLA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles.....	£6,495
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SUZUKI

2009(59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles.....	£9,495
2009(59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles.....	£8,995
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2006(66) TOYOTA RAV4 X-T4 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 35000 miles.....	£13,995
2007(57) TOYOTA PRIUS T-SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles.....	£12,995
2010(10) TOYOTA IQ VVT-I 10 3DR HATCH AUTO, PURPLE, 8000 miles.....	£9,495
2007(57) TOYOTA AURIS T-SPIRIT VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles.....	£8,995
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2005(05) TOYOTA YARIS VERSO T3 VVT-I MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 2500 miles.....	£6,495
2007(56) TOYOTA YARIS ZN6 C3 MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 26000 miles.....	£5,995
2007(57) TOYOTA AYGO BLACK VVT-I MM 3DR HATCH, BLACK, 20000 miles.....	£5,995
2004(04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 25000 miles.....	£5,495

NISSAN

2010(10) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, SILVER, 10000 miles.....	£19,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles.....	£17,995
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2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 miles.....	£15,995
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£15,495
2010(10) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles.....	£11,995
2007(07) NISSAN QASHQAI VISA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 4000 miles.....	£11,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI VISA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, SILVER, 5000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, BLACK, 15000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles.....	£7,495
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, BLACK, 18000 miles.....	£6,995
2007(07) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 18000 miles.....	£6,995
2007(07) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles.....	£6,995
2006(06) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, BLACK, 21000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, BLACK, 25000 miles.....	£5,495
2005(54) NISSAN ALMERA S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles.....	£4,995
2005(05) NISSAN ALMERA S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles.....	£4,995

ASTRA HATCHBACKS

2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 15000 miles.....	£9,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles.....	£9,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, TECHNIC, 5000 miles.....	£9,495
2010(09) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles.....	£9,495
2009(09) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 2000 miles.....	£8,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 14000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles.....	£8,495
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ULTRA BLUE, 11000 miles.....	£7,495
2007(07) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 19000 miles.....	£6,995
2007(07) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 20000 miles.....	£6,495
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BEIGE/BROWN, 14000 miles.....	£6,495
2007(07) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 17000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 16000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 3000 miles.....	£5,495

NEW MODEL ASTRA

2010(10) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 550 miles.....	£15,995
2010(60) VAUXHALL ASTRA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles.....	£14,995
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ASTRA ESTATES

2009(09) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles.....	£6,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles.....	£6,495
2006(56) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 18000 miles.....	£6,495
2006(56) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles.....	£5,995

ZAFIRA MERIVA & AGILA

2009(09) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, ICE GREEN, 9000 miles.....	£12,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£9,995
2010(59) VAUXHALL MERIVA CLUB 16V MPV AUTO, STEEL BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£9,495
2005(05) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 5995 miles.....	£9,000
2008(08) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, STEEL BLUE, 11000 miles.....	£8,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, GOLD, 3000 miles.....	£8,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL AGILA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles.....	£8,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 miles.....	£7,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, TURQUOISE, 13000 miles.....	£7,995
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10 60 AGILA DESIGN 1.25DR Lemongrass or Moroccan Blue	£9995	10 60 CORSA ENERGY 1.25DR Metro Blue	£10995	10 10 ZAFIRA ENERGY CDTI 1.7D 5DR Star Silver	£14995

ASTRA SELECTION

04 04 ASTRA SXI 1.4 3DR Star Silver	£3275	09 09 INSIGNIA EXCLUSIV 1.8 5DR Sovereign Silver	£10995	10 10 ZAFIRA ENERGY 1.8 5DR Black Sapphire	£12995
08 08 ASTRA BREEZE 1.4 5DR Ultra Blue	£6695	10 10 CORSA SRI 1.8 5DR Black Sapphire	£14495	10 60 ZAFIRA ENERGY 1.8 5DR Silver Lightning	£13995
07 57 ASTRA DESIGN ESTATE AUTO 1.8 5DR Metro Blue	£7495	10 60 CORSA EXCLUSIV AUTO 1.4 5DR Technical Grey	£10995	10 10 ZAFIRA ENERGY CDTI 1.7D 5DR Star Silver	£14995
08 57 ASTRA SXI 1.4 3DR Flame Red	£7695	10 60 CORSA SXI 1.4 3DR Black Sapphire	£14995	10 10 ZAFIRA SRI X PACK CDTI 1.9D 5DR Black Sapphire	£17995
08 08 ASTRA SXI 1.6 5DR Panacotta	£7995	10 10 CORSA SE 1.4 5DR Beech Green	£11495		

ZAFIRA SELECTION

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09 59 ASTRA ACTIVE SPORTS HATCH 1.4 3DR Sovereign Silver	£9995	10 10 CORSA SRI 1.8 5DR Black Sapphire	£14495	10 60 ZAFIRA ENERGY 1.8 5DR Silver Lightning	£13995
10 10 ASTRA SPORTS HATCH 1.4 3DR Red	£10995	10 60 INSIGNIA EXCLUSIV 1.0 5DR 2.0 5DR Technical Grey	£16495	10 10 ZAFIRA ENERGY CDTI 1.7D 5DR Star Silver	£14995
10 60 ASTRA SRI 1.4 3DR Sovereign Silver	£11495	10 60 INSIGNIA EXCLUSIV 1.0 5DR 2.0 5DR	£16495	10 10 ZAFIRA ENERGY 1.8 5DR Black Sapphire	£17995
10 10 ASTRA EXCLUSIV 1.6 5DR Technical Grey	£11995	10 60 INSIGNIA SPORTS TOURER EXCLUSIV 2.0 5DR Technical Grey	£19495		
10 60 ASTRA SRI SPORTS HATCH 1.6 3DR White	£11995	10 60 INSIGNIA SPORTS TOURER EXCLUSIV 2.0 5DR	£19495		
08 08 ASTRA VRX 2.0 3DR Arden Blue	£12495	10 60 MERIVA CLUB 1.4 5DR Air Blue	£7250		
10 10 ASTRA SRI TBO 1.4 5DR Black Sapphire	£13995	10 60 MERIVA SETBO 1.4 5DR Pepperdust	£14995		
10 59 ASTRA VRX 2.0 3DR Arden Blue	£15995	10 60 MERIVA EXCLUSIV 1.4 5DR Star Silver	£14995		

IN SIGNIA SELECTION

04 04 CITROEN C3 DESIRE HDI 1.6 5DR Silver	£3995	04 04 FORD FIESTA LX 1.4 5DR Silver	£3275	03 03 FORD FIESTA LX 1.25DR Silver	£3495
02 52 FORD FIESTA LX 1.4 5DR Silver	£3275	04 04 FORD FIESTA ZETEC 1.4 5DR Metallic Blue	£3995	04 54 FORD KA LUXE 1.3 2DR Black	£3495
03 03 FORD FIESTA LX 1.25DR Silver	£3495	02 52 FORD MONDEO LX 1.8 5DR Silver	£2995	04 54 PEUGEOT 206 STYLE DIESEL 1.4 3DR Red	£3995
04 04 FORD FIESTA ZETEC 1.4 5DR Metallic Blue	£3995	04 54 PEUGEOT 206 STYLE DIESEL 1.4 3DR Red	£3995	01 51 RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE 1.4 3DR Grey	£2995
04 54 FORD KA LUXE 1.3 2DR Black	£3495	04 53 RENAULT MEGANE EXPRESSION 1.4 5DR Blue	£3275	02 02 SEAT IBIZA TD 1.9 D 3DR Red	£3345

NON-VAUXHALL SELECTION

04 04 CITROEN C3 DESIRE HDI 1.6 5DR Silver	£3995	04 04 FORD FIESTA LX 1.4 5DR Silver	£3275	03 03 FORD FIESTA LX 1.25DR Silver	£3495
02 52 FORD FIESTA LX 1.4 5DR Silver	£3275	04 04 FORD FIESTA ZETEC 1.4 5DR Metallic Blue	£3995	04 54 FORD KA LUXE 1.3 2DR Black	£3495
03 03 FORD FIESTA LX 1.25DR Silver	£3495	02 52 FORD MONDEO LX 1.8 5DR Silver	£2995	04 54 PEUGEOT 206 STYLE DIESEL 1.4 3DR Red	£3995
04 04 FORD FIESTA ZETEC 1.4 5DR Metallic Blue	£3995	04 54 PEUGEOT 206 STYLE DIESEL 1.4 3DR Red	£3995	01 51 RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE 1.4 3DR Grey	£2995
04 54 FORD KA LUXE 1.3 2DR Black	£3495	04 53 RENAULT MEGANE EXPRESSION 1.4 5DR Blue	£3275	02 02 SEAT IBIZA TD 1.9 D 3DR Red	£3345

MERIVA SELECTION

08 08 MERIVA CLUB 1.4 5DR Air Blue	£7250	08 08 MERIVA CLUB 1.4 5DR Air Blue	£7250	08 08 CORSA VAN 1.3 2DR Star Silver	£9995
10 60 MERIVA SETBO 1.4 5DR Pepperdust	£14995	10 60 MERIVA EXCLUSIV 1.4 5DR Star Silver	£14995	10 60 CORSA VAN 1.3 2DR Star Silver	£9995
10 60 MERIVA EXCLUSIV 1.4 5DR Star Silver	£14995	10 60 MERIVA EXCLUSIV 1.4 5DR Waterworld	£14995	08 08 CORSA VAN 1.3 2DR Star Silver	£9995
10 60 MERIVA EXCLUSIV 1.4 5DR Waterworld	£14995	10 60 MERIVA EXCLUSIV 1.4 5DR Waterworld	£14995	10 60 CORSA VAN 1.3 2DR Star Silver	£9995
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08 58 CORSA BREEZE + 1.25DR Red	£7495	08 58 VECTRA DESIGN 2.2 5DR Ultra Blue	£7495	08 08 CORSA VAN 1.3 2DR Star Silver	£9995
08 08 CORSA SRI TBO 1.4 3DR Black Sapphire	£8495	08 08 VECTRA SR1 1.8 5DR Pomegranate Red	£8250	10 60 CORSA VAN 1.3 2DR Star Silver	£9995
09 09 CORSA DESIGN 1.4 5DR Black Sapphire	£8995	08 58 VECTRA SR1 1.8 5DR Pomegranate Red	£8250	08 08 CORSA VAN 1.3 2DR Star Silver	£9995
10 10 CORSA ENERGY 1.23DR White or Silver Lightning	£8995	08 58 VECTRA SR1 1.8 5DR Pomegranate Red	£8250	08 08 CORSA VAN 1.3 2DR Star Silver	£9995
10 60 CORSA ENERGY 1.23DR Black Sapphire	£8995	08 58 VECTRA SR1 1.8 5DR Pomegranate Red	£8250	08 08 CORSA VAN 1.3 2DR Star Silver	£9995

ZAFIRA SELECTION

03 53 ZAFIRA CLUB 1.8 5DR Ultra Blue	£3695	03 53 ZAFIRA CLUB 1.8 5DR Ultra Blue	£3695	10 60 CORSA VAN 1.3 2DR Star Silver	£9995
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Models shown are Astra Exclusiv at £219 per month and Meriva Exclusiv at £239 per month. £225 applies to Meriva Excite and Astra Excite. Offer available to individuals for orders received between 01.04.11 and 30.06.11. Figures based on a non-maintenance contract hire package over 48 months.

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Fiat rolls back years and

DrivingReview

by

SAMDAVISON

Fiat500C TwinAir

FIAT continues to amaze the market with a remarkable comeback to financial health and technical innovation.

The Italian brand also has a knack of linking the past with the future, as shown by the Fiat 500C TwinAir, tested this week.

The 'C' denotes that this is the convertible version (from £12,665), but like the opentop roof from the 1950s Fiat 500 Nuevo that inspired the curvy retro lines of the current 500, it is not a full croptop – wind-ruffling comes via a fully-opening roof and the side pillars stay firmly in place.

But that is not the only link with the past, because the car also features a little twin-cylinder petrol engine – the sort of unit that helped get the motoring masses of Italy on the move a few decades ago.

But this modern-day 875cc equivalent also has the capacity – no pun intended – to get the whole world's motoring masses on the move again as we now look to downsize and cut our emissions and fuel consumption.

Called the Twin-Air, Fiat rightly claims that it might be small in size and ecological footprint, but not performance. Thanks to nifty tur-



bocharging, this tiny engine in this tiny car outpunches many bigger contenders. It's fun to throw around, and green, too.

Most cars that limbo beneath the 100g/km CO₂ bar to become exempt from road tax are diesel or hybrid, but this petrol marvel escapes that too and without being a drag to drive.

Why would you want a weighty diesel – though you can have one in a 500 and pay more

if you wish – when you can have fun with this petrol marvel that averages nearly 70mpg? That's only slightly less than the diesel and it will out-accelerate that too, taking just 10.5 seconds to hit 62mph.

With a diesel more expensive, the fuel costing more at the pumps and a road tax bill to pay on top, there really isn't much of an argument that can be advanced for buying that instead of

a TwinAir or, indeed, the 500's 1.2 and 1.4-litre petrol alternatives.

But you knew there was a catch didn't you? Yes, the TwinAir has that thrumming beat that sounds like there is a box of angry pheasants under the bonnet. It's not a deal breaker though when there are so many pluses.

As for going for the convertible: the 500C's not a car that many blokes will buy, especially

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The official fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km) for the 508 range: Urban 55.4 - 30.4 (5.1 - 9.3), Extra Urban 72.4 - 54.3 (3.9 - 5.2), Combined 64.2 - 44.1 (4.4 - 6.4) and CO₂ 154 - 115.

*Prices quoted are on the road and include delivery to dealership. *Rental quoted are exclusive of VAT and exclude maintenance. For 508 models 3 rentals in advance followed by 35 monthly payments. All rentals are based on 10,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charges may be payable. Business users only. Guarantee may be required. Over 18s only. Written quotations from Peugeot Contract Hire, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Red Hill, RH1 1QA. Offers apply to eligible vehicles registered and supplied from 1st January to 30th June inclusive.

roof on new 500C



in the dainty blue of the test car – I drove in heavy disguise when I had the top down and one of the week's best wisecracks was "you'll pull the boys in that!"

But the 500 package is hard to resist, with a myriad of options including some stylish leather seats, to enhance the retro premium interior.

The test car came in luxurious Lounge trim with smart alloys, though a price tag of 15 grand starts to put it into BMW Mini Convertible territory – a slightly more butch pram for the boys to buy.

The roof also removes the hatchback convenience leaving a pretty awkward boot opening, though the rear seats still fold and allow some crammability and you can, of course, chuck stuff in via the open roof.

Like the Mini though, it should hold its value on the used market – helped by the many customisation options – and there is the assurance of good reliability due to shared underpinnings



from the Fiat Panda five-door runabout.

The Panda's robustness was underlined to me last year when the manager of a car hire

firm on a Greek island assured me that the little Fiat was the most bulletproof car on his fleet – praise indeed.

Driving Portfolio

FIAT 500C TWINAIR LOUNGE £15,265

Driving appeal (out of five)	★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★
Value	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How Green?	★★★★★
Road tax	£zero
Best rival	BMW Mini Convertible

The Verdict



DON'T LIKE:

the twee image and the TwinAir engine can be noisy



NOT SURE:

the boys will like this rolltop 500 even in a masculine colour



REALLY LIKE:

the fun element of body style and engine in an affordable package

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09 09 FORD FIESTA 1.2 5 STYLE+, Silver, air con, 20,000 mls	£7,995
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02 02 SUZUKI WAGON R+ SPECIAL, Silver, 44,000mls	£2,795
02 52 SUZUKI LIANA GL 5dr, Metallic Red	£2,195
06 56 TOYOTA COROLLA SR 1.6, Met blue, 5 dr, air con, alloys, FSH, 23,000 mls	£6,995
01 Y Y TOYOTA AVENSIS 1.8 GS AUTOMATIC, Silver, 5 dr, air con, FSH, 74,000 mls	£1,995
07 57 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 LIFE, 7 seater, black, one owner, air con, 31,000 mls	£6,695
07 57 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 CLUB, Silver, 5 door, air con, alloy wheels, 1 owner, 25,000 miles	£6,495
06 06 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CLUB ESTATE, Met gold, air con, alloys, FSH, 50,000mls	£5,595
06 06 VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 LIFE, Metallic, air con, FSH, 34,000 mls	£5,295
04 04 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 CTDI, Diesel Estate Design, black	£4,295
06 56 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 LIFE, 5 dr, air con, FSH, 1 owner	£4,295
05 55 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 DESIGN, Met blue, air con, elec window and mirrors	£3,995
05 05 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 LIFE, 5 dr, air con, Met Blue	£3,795
05 05 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF TDI SE AUTO, Black, 5-dr, air con, alloy wheels	£6,995
04 04 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF GT TD, Met grey, 6 speed, air con, alloys	£6,995

CARS TO CLEAR

01 Y VAUXHALL VECTRA SRI 150, silver, 5dr	£1,695
98 R FORD FIESTA 1.2 5 GHIA, Met red, 5 dr, air con, 54,000 mls	£1,295
00 W VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 LS, 5-dr	£1,295
03 03 ROVER 25 1.4i XL, Silver, 5 dr	£1,295
98 S VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 LS	£795

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Equality ruling sees both sexes lose out

QIn February you advised a young woman reader to sort out her car insurance as quickly as possible because a court ruling was expected to put up her premiums to match those of young men, even though they are a higher risk than young women. I have read since then that this is exactly what has happened, but I have seen nothing about the other point you made, about men's pensions being cut. Has this gone ahead as well? I am 59 and a self-employed electrician. My pension plan is with Aviva. Am I affected? LL

ABad news for you and other self-employed men, I am afraid. The European Court of Justice ruled that it was unlawful for insurance companies to take gender into account in deciding on any kind of risk. This is why young women drivers are going to see a big rise in the cost of car insurance, when they are bundled together with young men who statistically have far more accidents. At the other end of the age scale, private pensions are affected because men and women will have to be offered the same pension, even though women live longer than men. Until now, private pension plans have made bigger payments to men because they will typically die three or four years earlier than women. That has meant the insurance companies that operate these plans know that they will not have to pay male pensioners for as long as women, so they can afford to pay a little more. For example, if you had reached 65 a few months ago, with a pension pot of £100,000, you could have turned this into an annuity – a pension for life – of about £6,560 a year. A woman of the same age would have been offered about £6,000, because she would have been expected to draw her pension for a few years more than you. When the court judgment takes full effect, which looks like being next year, the woman of your age looks set to get £6,100 a year – a rise of £100 – while you are likely to be quoted exactly the same £6,100 – a fall of £460. There is no way round this. Our courts and our Parliament have no power to over-rule the European decision. If you have been counting on reaching a certain level of pension income, all you can do is put more into your pension plan or carry on working longer, in order to get back to square one.

QI saw the letter from the reader who was refused compensation over Bradford & Bingley shares. Like most shareholders, I received shares when the building society became a bank. But I, like others, put in more money to keep the troubled bank afloat. I put in £184, and I feel if we are not recompensed then this amounts to stealing. JD

AIn case anyone thinks their savings are not safe, I need to explain that your £184 went to

TONY HETHERINGTON
MONEY CLINIC

buy more shares in Bradford & Bingley. It was not a deposit in a savings account. As a shareholder, you were one of the owners of the bank. If it made profits, you got a dividend. If it went bust, your shares became worthless – and that is what happened. The only dispute is over whether shareholders were told the whole truth in 2008, before they invested in extra shares. The story was that the bank would remain solvent, but it collapsed weeks later, taking your money with it. Nobody has fully explained how this could happen, and we are unlikely to learn what went on unless there is a public inquiry. Perhaps you should try to enlist your MP's support for this.

QI am writing for advice about a mailing we received from Vital Beauty. We began to fill in the reply coupon but had second thoughts. JM

AVital Beauty is a mail order company operating from a PO box number in Hampshire. In fact, its real name is Agence de Marketing Applique, and it is based in Belgium. The mailing tells you repeatedly that you are the winner of a guaranteed cheque, and that if you return the correct document you will receive £46,372. But the truth is that this is just a lottery. Vital Beauty hopes you will return the order form and buy its goods, which is what you started to do before sending everything to me. There is one prize of £46,372, and there will be only one winner. The so-called "guaranteed cheque" that everyone else will receive is a voucher worth £1.50 off your next order from Vital Beauty! Save your money.

QMy new PAYE tax code includes the letter "K", but people I work with have codes with the letter "L". Can you explain this? BJL

ACodes with L are the simplest, for people with the basic tax allowance. Replace the letter with the figure 9 and you will get the amount of annual income you can have before tax. K codes are more complicated. They suggest you have other income, apart from your main job, or owe some arrears. K codes are individually calculated to collect more than the normal tax on your main earnings.

■ If you have a personal-finance question, write to Tony Hetherington, MyMoney24, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE. We regret that neither Tony nor the MyMoney24 team can enter into personal correspondence.

Help with water bills could be on its way

Water bills could be cut for the most vulnerable households under new plans announced by the government.

A consultation published this week builds on the findings and recommendations of Anna Walker's independent review of charging for household water and sewerage services and further analysis by regulator Ofwat on options for tackling bills in the South-West, an area hit particularly hard by high water charges.

Environment secretary Caroline Spelman said: "We know that some households are really struggling with their water bills, particularly in the South-West, where people are paying the highest bills in the country."

"Our plans will increase the help available for vulnerable households right across England, with special help for people in the South-West who, through no fault of their own, are battling astronomical water bills during a difficult economic climate."

Proposed reforms include enhancing Watersure, a scheme that helps vulnerable households who pay for their water via water meters, by capping their bills at the level of the average bill for their water companies.



GOING WITH THE FLOW: Water charges could be reduced for poorer households under new legislation due to be introduced.

Under the new plans, bills would be capped at the national average metered bill if this is lower than the company's average, with the cost met by the government. There will also be guidance to introduce social tariffs. This will provide extra help for those

struggling to pay their bills by providing guidance for water companies on the design of tariffs, including which households should benefit, what level of cross-subsidy between households is fair, and what concessions should be offered.

Ray of hope for our first-time buyers

The outlook for first-time house buyers remains gloomy, but there is potential for hope on the horizon, according to a new report from a leading UK mortgage provider.

The Road Blocks and Ways Forward report from HSBC seeks to explain why the number of first-time buyers has dropped from around 500,000 to 200,000 across 10 years – and what can be done to increase this figure amidst such difficult economic conditions.

Research has revealed that more than 80pc of non-homeowning adults aspire to be first-time buyers, but fewer than a quarter of these people expect to be able to purchase within the next five years.

Key reasons holding prospective buyers back are difficulties raising the required deposit, insufficient income to support the mortgage, concerns over unemployment and concern over future falling house prices.

By ED FOSS
MyMoney24 writer

But the last of these was put forward by only 12pc of people – lower than some commentators would have predicted.

The current average first-time buyer house price of £136,842 is 6.6 times a young single person's average earnings of £20,654.

With lenders across the industry typically reluctant to lend more than four times income, this leaves an "affordability gap" of 2.6 times income, equivalent to £53,700.

In order to afford a 90pc loan-to-value mortgage – the maximum a standard lender will currently allow – a typical first-time buyer's home earnings would have to be £30,800.

Stuart Beattie, HSBC's head of mortgages, said: "Our study proves that the aspiration to be a homeowner continues to be exceptionally strong.

"More than 80pc of young non-homeowners are aspiring to buy homes but are being prevented from doing so due to a lack of affordable homes. The key to helping buyers back into the market is to help them obtain the cash deposit that responsible lenders require before granting a mortgage."

"To this end, both government and private sector interested parties need to come up with innovative schemes to help aspiring first-time buyers."

Ways forward could include expansion of government-supported shared equity schemes, changes to stamp duty to put the onus more on last-time sellers, and more help to bring empty houses into the market.

The HSBC report also said a return to more 95pc loan-to-value mortgages could be made possible by additional safeguards for lenders and borrowers, such as types of specialist insurance.

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

WITH Prince William and Kate Middleton's wedding day fast approaching, firms are being advised to make their work policy clear.



The big day has already been made a public holiday but the South East Society of Chartered Accountants has raised fears that employees planning to make the most of the day off could clash with bosses expecting them to work as normal.

More inside.

SIMON ROBINSON

BUSINESS EDITOR

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Struggling Kent duo fall by the wayside

By **SIMON ROBINSON**simon.robinson@kosmedia.co.uk

TWO Kent firms have become the latest businesses to buckle as a result of the recession.

Refrigeration giant Blighline Ltd entered into administration after amassing debts of about £6 million, while commercial printer Thanet Press ceased trading and made all staff redundant.

Blighline's management team said they were left with no alternative having been badly hit by "deteriorating trading conditions and severe liquidity problems". Deloitte administrators were appointed on March 23.

Partner Carlton Siddle said: "We will continue to trade the business while seeking a sale as a going concern. The administration team will work closely with management, customers and suppliers during this time to ensure operations continue as normal."

Blighline bosses attempted to restructure the Canterbury-based business in 2010, taking the number of employees down from 200 to 120.

Their principal customer, Tesco, was said to have been "fully supportive" of the money-saving efforts.

However, the firm, based at Lakesview Business Park, Westbere, was ultimately unable to stave off administration. The company built up a £25m annual turnover through sales of refrigeration and display equipment to supermarkets and the catering industry.

Thanet Press had its accounts frozen last month by Barclays after HMRC served the company with a winding-up petition. Insolvency firm CCW Recovery Solutions LLP has been appointed to the business.

A Thanet Press statement read: "It is with regret that the directors of Thanet Press Limited announce that the business has ceased to trade with immediate effect and that the employees have had their employment terminated."

"This action has been forced upon the compa-



END OF THE ROAD: Blighline and Thanet Press have both buckled as the economy struggles

ny due to a reduction in sales arising from intense competition in the UK Print sector leading in turn to cashflow difficulties. The company's bankers, Barclays, froze all bank accounts last week following their review of the business's future. As a result, Thanet Press was

unable to pay suppliers or staff

and the directors

were left with

no option

o t h e r

than to

cease to

trade and

appoint insol-

vency practitioners

CCW Recovery Solutions LLP to advise

them. There is nothing further the directors can

add at this time, save to express their regret at being forced to take such action and to thank all staff, customers and suppliers for their commitment and support over the years."

A Barclays spokesman said: "The Barclays Business Support team, which helps customers

facing financial difficulty, has been supporting Thanet Press since early 2009.

"During that time we have worked closely with the business to support them through their difficulties and were in active discussion with the directors to find a way through the current problems. However, once the winding up petition was filed by HMRC we were obliged to freeze the company's accounts.

"We have worked hard to help the company survive and are committed to lending to viable businesses. It is our obligation to lend responsibly to businesses and provide support that helps them grow and thrive."

CCW partner Mark Newman will chair a meeting at the Holiday Inn Express, Manston, on Tuesday, April 12, at which the company is likely to be placed into creditors' voluntary liquidation. The company is due to face the winding up petition the following day.

Micro-firms welcome red tape freeze

A THREE-year freeze on new UK regulation for micro-firms has begun.

The Government's moratorium on all new legislation affecting small companies came into effect on April 6.

The Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) welcomed the move but called on Government to push for similar changes from the European Union.

An FSB spokesman said 72 per cent of the total cost of UK regulation now originates from Brussels and that there have

been more than 100,000 pages of new EU regulations since 1997.

FSB Kent and Medway chairman Roger House said: "The FSB has welcomed the Government's commitment to help ease the burden of regulation on these businesses, but we are concerned that regulations coming from Europe will hit small firms harder and as a result they will feel the impact of these much more."

"If the burden of unnecessary regulation is lifted from small businesses, they would

be free to get on with creating wealth, jobs and growth. It is worth remembering that if only 50 per cent of the EU's small businesses employed just one extra person there would be an additional 10 million jobs.

"Micro-firms will be in a much better position to plan for their future, grow, innovate and take on new staff, without the worry of constant changes to the law, yet it is disappointing that some of the most burdensome aspects of employment regulation are not included."



ROGER HOUSE



Comment

THE Government's favourite post-recession buzzword is growth and, more to the point, how to stimulate it. The economy has been left in ruins, crushed in part by rising inflation, and companies up and down the country have struggled to make ends meet.

Two established and formerly profitable Kent firms – Blighline and Thanet Press – have gone out of business in recent weeks and many more will go the same way if they cannot rebalance the books soon.

The Government hopes its Regional Growth Fund will give the economy the shot in the arm it needs to get back on track.

Businesses, particularly start-ups, have been invited to apply for a share of the £1.4 billion funding pot.

Critics have argued that the fund is not large enough to reinvigorate the market and the fact that the first round of bidding attracted 450 bids, totalling more than £2 billion, seems to support their argument.

Prime Minister David Cameron has also launched his StartUp Britain campaign, which he hopes will give would-be entrepreneurs the backing, financial or otherwise, to go into business.

Students have also been targeted, with a new Entrepreneur First scheme seeing business-minded undergraduates given support and guidance with help from leading employers.

It will also pay for the creation of enterprise societies in every university in the country.

Chancellor George Osborne's second Budget was also full of growth-minded initiatives.

The 21 new enterprise zones, featuring relaxed planning laws and discounted business rates, corporation tax cut and additional apprenticeship funding, are all intended to give businesses a much-needed boost.

The question now is whether the Government has done enough to secure the growth it is desperate to achieve.

Businesses are still struggling to make ends meet and will continue to do so until customers' disposable incomes, shrunk by galloping inflation, begin to recover.

Bringing inflation under control is clearly key to the Government's growth goals and should be addressed as a matter of urgency.

SIMON ROBINSON, Business Editor
Twitter: @KOSbusiness



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Still going strong after 80 years



LONG HAUL: Chalkwell has built up a 50-strong fleet since Harry Eglington started in 1931 with one coach, below

CHALKWELL Coach Hire and Tours has celebrated its 80th anniversary. The Sittingbourne-based business reached the milestone on April 1.

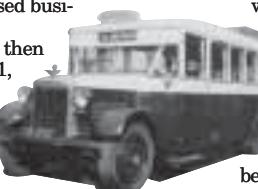
Harry Eglington founded what was then known as Island Luxury Coaches in 1931, with just a solitary coach to his name.

His son Clive, who has taken over at the firm, which now boasts a 50-strong coach and bus fleet, said: "It is with great pride that we celebrate our 80th anniversary."

"When my father started his business in Sheerness on April 1, 1931, with one 26-seat coach operating an express

service to east London, where he grew up, he had no idea what the business would develop into. In those 80 years we have developed services such as tours, daybreaks, schools and local bus, and London commuter operations."

"That said, we have remained true to his philosophy and remain a Swale-based, people-driven business with a dedicated staff of drivers, engineers and those who work behind the scenes in our offices. The growth and success we have achieved is thanks to the dedication so many have brought to Chalkwell over the years and the kind support of our customers."



Making policy clear before the big day



ROYAL WEDDING: But not everyone will be able to enjoy the public holiday to celebrate Will's and Kate's nuptials

BUSINESSES are being urged to make their Royal Wedding policy clear to employees ahead of the big day, writes Simon Robinson.

The Government has made Friday, April 29, a public holiday, giving workers across the country the chance to celebrate Prince William and Kate Middleton's marriage.

However, workers in frontline professions, such as nurses, have been told they must work on the day but will not receive any extra pay.

Others have been told they must apply for annual leave. The South East Society of Chartered Accountants (Sesca) is advising firms to make their policy clear to avoid problems.

Sesca president Malcolm Kimber said: "While millions are looking forward to the Royal Wedding, a row over arrangements for staff that have to work on the day is brewing."

"Communication is the key here. If staff are made aware of what the policy is, it can make for a splendid historic occasion for everyone."

"Companies have had a tough time lately and this includes staff, many of whom have seen hours cut and wages reduced."

"Businesses can use this opportunity to show they care about their staff and ensure everyone is paid what they are entitled to and allow them to partake in the royal celebrations if they wish to."

THE University of Kent has joined forces with Kent Connects under a new scheme to give business students a taste of working in the public sector. The link will see the university's Kent Business School's MBA postgraduates take up posts at a range of local authority organisations.

Under the Kent Connects MBA Cohort Programme, councils and other local authority agencies will benefit from the students' business expertise, while the students will gain public sector experience. Kent Business School MBA director Rajendra Shirore said: "This is a superb opportunity for students to engage with project challenges and deliver solutions local authority agencies."

"This relationship with Kent Connects and Kent County Council is undertaken as part of the MBA programme which enables students to work with local and national organisations on key projects."

"These provide real and relevant insight into how the sec-

tor is affected by economic challenges and changes."

"The projects also provide a collaborative approach for students to grow business connections, gain a deeper understanding of the challenges public sector organisation face, as well as sharpen their leadership skills."

"The projects are scattered throughout the region and will provide a range of exciting challenges for students."

Kent Connects head Carol Patrick said: "This is an innovative and exciting project enabling us to forge closer links with Kent Business School and its students."

"It is providing students with the opportunity to work on real topics and get a better understanding of the issues affecting local government. For the partners, the project provides an injection of critical thinking and enables a new perspective to be brought to difficult problems."

"We hope that the MBA Cohort will be the beginning of a long-term relationship between Kent Connects and Kent Business School."



■ AN AIRPORT business initiative has taken off at Biggin Hill. The LOCATE project aims to bring a diverse group of interested parties together in a collective bid to further develop business potential at the airport.

An airport spokesman said: "LOCATE is the name for a new business initiative that has been developed in conjunction with all landowners around the airport, aerospace partner companies based at the airport, the relevant local authorities of surrounding districts and Bromley council officers.

"The overall objective is to deliver on development potential at the airport for businesses, harness dynamism to enhance skills and competitiveness and engage with the heritage alongside a cluster of businesses at the airport."

A thousand people are employed at and around Biggin Hill, making the airport one of the largest employment centres in Bromley. More than £20 million of capital investment has been carried out at the airport since 2005 – and more jobs and investment are to come.

■ A SOCIAL enterprise catering company enjoyed a high-profile launch event – serving more than 1,000 diners at the O2.

The People's Food Company, set up by Whistable husband-and-wife team Tom and Angela Bonner, secured the catering contract for the Voice 11 social enterprise event.

The firm offers positions to those who may have experienced difficulty in finding work and reinvests profits into sustaining and furthering its mission for positive change.

Employees handed out snacks and refreshments to guests including Labour leader Ed Miliband and business secretary Vince Cable.

Mrs Bonner said: "It was inspiring and thoroughly enjoyable. It's so amazing to be able to go to such a huge event and give people a drink and a snack with a smile and make such a difference. We had the best time."

"The feedback we received was just so positive we can't wait to start planning for our next event. We have so many great ideas we want to try out and are just raring to go."

■ ONESAVINGS Bank Plc has opened its new-style blueprint agency in Strood. The Tolgate Lane agency, branded krbs, replaces the former Strood High Street branch.

OneSavings' chief operating officer Tim Sawyer said: "The new Strood agency represents a blueprint for all krbs agencies. Its design is a little different from what we traditionally had and is very much in keeping with our new-look business model."

The new agency can be found at Unit 2 of the Michael Gill Building.

■ A STUDENTS' Union has been named as one of the country's top 20 best public sector places to work. Kent Union, at the University of Kent, was ranked 19th in the Sunday Times top 100 list.

Just under 250 organisations competed for a place on the list and the views of 49,000 employees were canvassed.

Entrants were listed depending on their commitment to best practice and workplace engagement across eight categories.

Kent Union scored particularly highly in the My Company and My Manager sections.

A Kent Union spokesman said: "This is the third year that we have featured in the Sunday Times list and each year has seen us edge nearer to the top."

Pickles' chamber step given mixed reception

THE Government's local enterprise partnerships will be led by the British Chambers of Commerce, it has been revealed, writes Simon Robinson.

The new partnerships (LEPs), which will replace Labour's regional development agencies, have been set up to enable business and civic leaders to respond to their area's specific economic needs.

It is hoped the unique LEPs – including the combined Kent, East Sussex and Essex partnership – will drive forward growth and job creation across the country.

After announcing that the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) will lead the roll-out of the partnerships, local government secretary Eric Pickles said: "The BCC came forward with a very strong proposal and with its network across the country it is well placed to anchor business at the centre of new local enterprise."

Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce chief executive Jo James welcomed the decision, saying: "This is a very positive step forward in the LEP process as it will ensure business is at the heart of the agenda. Kent Invicta welcomes the opportunity to work alongside the BCC to the benefit of Kent businesses."

However, some business organisations have raised concerns that awarding one organisation sole responsibility for the LEPs will result in wider business interests not being taken into account.

The Federation of Small Businesses Kent and Medway chairman Roger House said: "We are entirely supportive of the concept of a group which brings together LEPs.

"However, there is more than one business organisation on the ground, each representing different business sectors and with members working hard to make the LEPs a success by dedicating their time to develop them from grassroots level – something the Government wanted.

"For LEPs to be truly effective they need to

represent those diverse business interests. Simply picking a single business organisation to run it in this way, with no consultation with the rest of the business community, risks isolating both those businesses which are not a member of any body and those which are members of the groups that haven't been included."

Miles Templeman, the Institute of Directors' director general, said: "We are surprised and disappointed the Government has appointed the BCC to head this £300,000 quango with no consultation or discussion with other business groups.

"We question seriously the need to spend £300,000 of taxpayers' money on a body whose

purpose is to lobby national government on behalf of LEPs. No case has been made to us for this arrangement."

Forum of Private Business chief executive Phil Orford said: "Many of our members still don't understand what Local Enterprise Partnerships will do to support economic and employment growth at a local level.

"To now discover that Government has been holding unilateral discussions with one business organisation to provide a national networking and co-ordination body for LEPs, without competitive tender is, frankly, surprising and disappointing and will raise questions about the localism agenda and public procurement policy."

Growing into the role

EAST Malling Research has announced the appointment of Professor Peter Gregory as its new chief executive.

Gregory, who serves in the same position of the Scottish Crop Research Institute, will take up his new position from May 1. The academic, whose specialist interests include aspects of food systems and food security, with a particular emphasis on environmental change, succeeds Dr Mike Solomon, who is retiring for the second time from EMR, having first retired as science director in 2006.

Prof Gregory said: "I am delighted to be joining as chief executive at a time when fruit and food are back in the public eye. EMR's outstanding research is a key element of the UK's future food and farming excellence."

Delighted

"My role at the University of Reading will allow me to project EMR's work internationally and bring a new generation of students into contact with the practicalities and challenges of producing and marketing high quality horticultural foods."

EMR chairman Oliver Doubleday said: "We are delighted to welcome Peter Gregory. Following a distinguished academic career, Peter will be able to build on the great progress made by Mike Solomon over the past two years."

"I am confident Peter is the



TOP MAN: Prof Peter Gregory

person to guide EMR's exciting and continuing development as one of the UK's main horticulture R&D providers and extend EMR's remit."

Commenting on the legacy of Mike Solomon, Will Sibley, chairman of East Malling Trust, said: "EMR and the trust owe Mike an enormous debt of gratitude for not only his recent commitment as chief executive since May, 2009, but also the nearly 40 years he has spent at the research station. His work has strengthened its financial base and he has forged stronger relationships with other academic and research institutions."

ROLL-OUT: Government minister Eric Pickles has chosen the BCC to lead local enterprise partnerships



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Tourism cuts concern

VISIT Kent has written to tourism minister John Penrose to raise concerns over the impact local authority budget cuts could have on the industry.

The county's tourism champion fears some of the 'glue' that enables destination management organisations to create successful partnerships could be eroded in current budget reviews.

Chief executive Sandra Matthews-Marsh said: "Local authorities have a key role to play in underpinning the process of bringing various interests together.

"They help create a platform on which destination businesses can stand together, collaborate and interact in the task of delivering a rounded project to visitors.

"We call this a 'sticky' destination, where each part of the visitor's journey plays its part to support the next and where the visitor is encouraged to stay longer because of the myriad of elements to retain their interest and spending.

"It also works to support economies of scale in marketing, such as creating a joined-up presence at exhibitions and trade events."

Matthews-Marsh and Visit Kent investors met with the tourism minister in Dover last month.

While generally welcoming the Government's national tourism policy, Matthews-Marsh called for more to be done to enhance the UK's pulling power.

She said: "We are delighted that, for the first time, the tourism industry has been recognised by the Government as a sector in its own right and as a key driver for rebuilding the economy during the recovery.



GUEST: John Penrose MP with Visit Kent chairwoman Amanda Cottrell during his Dover trip

ery. These are challenging times and we need to deliver radical programmes and put in place the foundations that will enable them to succeed. To stimulate growth, we are backing calls from the Tourism Alliance for all historic properties with significant and covenanted benefit to the public to be eligible for lottery grants; we would like the Real Estate Investment Trust eligibility to include commercial visitor accommodation; and we want hotel building allowances brought back.

"Furthermore, we are calling on the Government to consider creating a level playing field across Europe for our industry. The UK is only one of three of the 27 EU member states which does not apply a reduced-rate of VAT to tourism services.

"A cut in VAT for our sector would make us far more competitive and could see UK tourism earnings increase by seven per cent."



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Inspired rise

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THE BIG INTERVIEW

I.T. hardware specialist Inspired Technology Services has enjoyed a stellar rise in its short history. The firm went from making a £20,000 loss in 2003 to a £6 million turnover in 2010 after increasing its number of clients from 20 to 450 during the same period.

The Whitstable-based computer company's change in fortune has been spearheaded by director ELLAINE MARJOLIN. She spoke to Business Week editor Simon Robinson about how she helped the business blossom, despite being armed with just a telephone and a list of contact details.



Ellaine Marjolin

ELLAINNE MARJOLIN: CV

- Degree in Criminal Law & Criminology, 2001
- HaHa Bar and Canteen Restaurant Manager 2000-2002
- Inspired Technology Services, director, 2003-present
- Active Life – fitness instructor, 2009-present

don't want to let you down', then often people will appreciate your honesty and stay with you."

Under Marjolin's guidance, the company has expanded its number of clients from 20 to 450.

Although working predominantly in London and the South East, Inspired also works with customers as far away as Aberdeen and Plymouth.

While clearly proud of her achievements, the director is keen to emphasise the hard work and commitment needed to stay ahead of the competition.

Speaking at the company's John Wilson Business Park base, Marjolin said: "We have hundreds of rivals, everything from giant one-stop shop organisations to little one-man bands. Competition is fierce, but we've got a very good reputation within the industry and where we've provided a service and people are happy they generally come back to us.

"But we have to be constantly cold-calling for new business because accounts dry up. It's about getting new customers all the time."

MARJOLIN comes across as a do-er; the type to get things done rather than stand back and procrastinate. She speaks without the gift-of-the-gab confidence often stereotypically associated with salesmen, but what she lacks in clichés and wafer-thin charm she more than makes up for in determination and enthusiasm.

"I'm very into my work," she said. "It's my passion.

"I'm very hands-on. I totally believe in being out there on the frontline with all the other salesmen. I think that's why we work quite well together as a team."

"We've done so well because we're all in it together for the benefit of everyone. We're like a family. It's that sort of mentality – all focused on achieving the goals we've set."

"I couldn't have achieved what I have without the team around me. We have fabulous sales and purchasing teams and great warehouse and in-house logistic staff, who all deliver an outstanding service."

Marjolin is clearly proud of her achievements at Inspired and feels businesses should employ more women in the top positions.

She said: "I think women have so much to offer. Women are just as driven as men, have the same skills and can also offer a new way of looking at problems and scenarios."

"Sadly, I think there are a lot of talented women out there who are held back because of their bosses feel that they are going to be a mother sooner or later so they just employ a man instead."

THE 29-year-old has taken the Whitstable-based IT hardware firm from a position of losing £20,000 a year in 2003 to a turnover of £6 million last year. And this was done initially with just a computer, telephone and a database of numbers at her disposal.

"I joined the company in 2003 and was just told to make it work," she said.

"At the time it was me and one other guy working in a horrible little office. All I had was a computer, telephone and a database of public sector bodies and councils, but I got on the phone and opened a few accounts."

The mother-of-two stumbled upon her natural sales skills, having entered the IT selling business after completing a criminology degree at Portsmouth University.

Having risen through the ranks of the firm during the past eight years, elevated by ever-increasing profits, Marjolin has fine-tuned her sales technique.

"A good salesman has to have quite an inspiring personality," she said.

"You have to get people excited to talk to you and find a connection with the person you are talking to. You have to show a genuine interest in them as a person."

"It's also important to know your stuff, let the customers know that you understand their situation and give them confidence. If people feel confident in you, then they will buy from you."

"With regard to maintaining sales, you have to be honest. Don't over-promise and under-deliver, that's the worst thing you could do. The moment you do that the account is closed."

"If you say they're going to get it by Friday and you don't deliver until the following Wednesday, you are never going to get business from them again."

"However, if you say, 'We've got an issue and are not going to be able to get to you before Wednesday but



of the ultimate IT girl

SEAL THE DEAL: Elaine Marjolin and colleagues at Inspired Technology Services' Whitstable office



ELLAINE'S TOP TIPS

- Know your product
- Know your industry/competitors
- Remain focused and motivated
- Stay ahead of the competition
- Never over-promise and under-deliver
- Be honest and care about your clients' needs



"Luckily, I have a good working relationship with everyone here. I think having taken the company from a position of losing £20,000 a year to where we are now has made people take me seriously."

"But I think the number of women directors a company has should be based entirely on merit – you can't put any woman on the board just for the sake of it."

"If the right woman, who is willing to put the work in, graft and offer valuable opinions is available though it is only right that she is given a top job."

"The 25 per cent target for women on boards at the top FTSE 100 firms is a good figure, but I feel it should be a minimum."

Marjolin, mother to Alexia and Zeus, said she had worked hard to find the right balance between work and home life.

"My family is very important to me," she said.

"People say to me, 'how do you do it, how come you're not tired, how come you're so happy?' But I'm working for my kids, to provide for them so they can have whatever they need to be successful."

"My kids are happy. Of course, I would like to spend more time with them. It's hard to get that balance. I think I've got it right. I'm quite lucky because I've got a lot of family support."

Coming back to her job, I ask the dedicated director how tech-mad she is.

"While I'm interested in the application of IT, the latest gadgets are not something that particularly interest me," she revealed.

"I know everything about it and have to find out all about the latest technology, but I'm not that into computers and games consoles. I think it's all a bit excessive, but if people are going to buy it then I am going to sell it to them."



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WINNERS: The SW Doughty team with Richard Benyon MP and Clarissa Dickson Wright

They're a cut above your average village butcher

FAMILY firm SW Doughty has been named the Best Butcher in Britain at the Countryside Alliance awards.

The Doddington-based business took top prize at the nationwide finals, held in London March 30.

Countryside Alliance chief executive Alice Barnard said: "I could not be happier for the Doughty family. This charming business has been trading in Doddington for over 150 years and the family has owned and run the shop and abattoir on its present site since 1919."

"Three family members and three local butchers bring over 100 years of experience to the business. Animals are processed in the small Georgian abattoir one at a time, the pigs are still

scalded in a tub and scoured by hand and all the carcasses are carefully dressed by hand and hung for a minimum of two weeks before they are cut to sell."

"The farming community values the abattoir service which those in the industry know is an increasingly rare yet important factor for animal welfare and quality. Doughtys go the distance for their local farmers, who they value and support to the hilt."

"The shop also plays a central role in its community. The character, friendliness and warmth of the team make Doughtys a special place."

"Traditional quality, customer service and the benefit of huge skill and experience in butchery makes Doughtys the out and out winner."



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Shifting gear and location with modern one-stop base



TC MOTORHOMES has shifted up a gear after investing more than £2 million in its new Herne Bay base.

The firm, which has traded in Kent for 22 years, made the move earlier this year after outgrowing the Broadstairs site.

The new two-acre motorhome and caravan centre boasts a display area fit for 30 new and 70 second-hand vehicles, sales and service centre and MoT workshop.

Owner Tony Chamberlain said: "We took on this site at Hillborough as it was a fantastic opportunity for us to vastly improve our facilities and offer our customer base the one-stop shop for all their motorhome and caravanning requirements."

"We feel we have the best motorhome and caravan sales and service centre in Kent."

"I am always looking to keep our standard high and to achieve this it's important to keep staff well trained, with the latest information and equipment to do the job."

By SIMON ROBINSON

simon.robinson@kosmedia.co.uk

"It's not cheap to purchase a motorhome or caravan, so it's wise to buy from a firmly committed company like us that has the technical ability and financial resources to maintain a consistent facility for years to come."

The company's service department head, Neal Kinsley, said the new on-site workshop enabled them to further support customers.

"It's important to have your motorhome or caravan serviced on a annual basis to make certain all the systems are in good working order. This enables you to get the maximum enjoyment from your investment."

"We are in the process of qualifying to be a approved habitation workshop."

"This is operated and governed by the national caravan council and ensures the quality of our workmanship is first class."

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HOME FROM HOME: The modern workshop and showroom at TC Motorhomes

Attracting investment can be make or break



PHIL BEAVAN: Innovation and Growth

SECURING equity investment is often seen as a holy grail among business owners, but the make-or-break world portrayed by Dragons' Den is closer than you may think, writes **Phil Beavan**, portfolio director with the Innovation and Growth team.

People seeking finance to grow and expand their businesses are essentially faced with two choices: using their own money or arranging some form of finance – either debt or equity.

But with many businesses continuing to report difficulties in obtaining support from their banks, is equity finance a realistic option for the region's businesses?

Kent boasts some active, structured and keen equity investors, people who are backing businesses now and always looking for new opportunities.

We are certainly always interested in talking to businesses who feel that equity backing is right for their business.

So what does it take to attract a potential investor and what are they looking for?

One thing that you most certainly do not need is a revolutionary new product or idea.

In fact, if it is a completely new concept or invention then the likelihood is the value of the business will be surprisingly low, unless you have sales going through.

A good understanding of your market is key as well as knowing how, and why, you'll attack it, and the abilities of the management team can never be underestimated.

A great management team will make a success of the most mediocre idea, whereas a poor management team will mess up even the best concept. The product or service is neither as interesting or as important as you think. If you are planning on speaking to potential investors, then you need to prepare a short but concise business plan, no more than seven pages. It needs to cover:

- What is the market opportunity?
- Who are your competitors?
- Costs, selling point.
- Promotion and distribution.
- Risks and threats.
- Management team.
- How much do you want?
- How will the investor get their money back?

As for the investors themselves, they are ready and waiting.

We have been approached by a number of business angels in the last few weeks who are actively looking for opportunities as they are in a position to invest now.



REFRESHED: Ramada Hotel at Whitfield

Ramada turning over a new Leaf with makeover

RAMADA Hotel in Dover is undergoing a makeover after a £500,000 investment.

The on-going improvements include a new restaurant, bar and lobby, together with the installation of flat-screen TVs and a new guest information system in all 68 bedrooms.

General manager Gehan Dias-Bandaranaike said: "This refurbishment will enhance our reputation as one of the only prestigious branded four-star hotels in east Kent and will enable the Ramada Hotel Dover to continue serving local, corporate and leisure clients alike by offering competitive prices, excellent service and a warm welcome."

The hotel, just off the A2 at Whitfield, is owned by Leaf Hotels, which also runs the recently renovated Best Western Dover Marina Hotel & Spa on the seafront.

Heseltine will oversee growth fund bidding



BIDS: Lord Heseltine

THE second round of bidding for the Government's much-criticised Regional Growth Fund will begin on Tuesday.

Businesses can submit applications for a slice of the £1.4 billion pot, which is then allocated by a team headed by Lord Heseltine, pictured above.

The first £250 million RDF phase, which closed in January, attracted 450 bids totalling more than £2bn.

Lord Heseltine said the fund was

aimed at pumping money into start-up businesses, particularly in areas that have traditionally been reliant on the public sector to create jobs.

Opponents to the plan have raised concerns that the £1.4bn available is not large enough.

Labour has hit out at the fund, saying it is a poor replacement for their regional development agencies, which have been scrapped.

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NEXT WEEK: Business Week Spotlight

will focus on Legal matters

Sport



Find out how Faversham Town picked up their first win under caretaker bosses, Clive Walker and Ray Turner



Sittingbourne's three-match unbeaten home run came crashing down when they lost to Walton & Hersham on Saturday



Shephey warmed up for this weekend's play-off with a thumping win against Gillingham Anchorians



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